



END PYLONS PLAN SAY PROTESTERS

Report by Sue Austin

PRESSURE is growing on National Grid to formally announce it is scrapping its plans for a pylon line through the Mid Wales and Shropshire countryside.

Surveys along land that would be affected by the pylons have been suspended by National Grid amid speculation that the line will never be built.

That speculation has come from the announcement by the Department of Energy and Climate Change last week that it had dismissed appeals for planning permission for four new wind farms in Mid Wales.

The pylon line would have been needed to take the energy generated by the proposed wind farms to the national network.

The National Grid plans would have seen most of the 33-mile power cable, between Cefn Coch near Llanfair Caereinion to Lower Frankton near Oswestry, carried on overhead lines, sparking fears for the region's tourism industry.

Despite the Government's rejection of the wind farms, National Grid has still not formally announced the scrapping of its plans. National Grid spokesman Stewart Larque said the body would now work with SP Manweb to take a look at the proposed wind generation requirements. He added: "We realise people will want to know as soon as possible exactly what this means for the Mid Wales connection projects."

Blight

But campaigners have insisted National Grid must make a decision now on the pylon plans to remove the blight on people's lives and their homes. Charles Green for campaign group Shropshire North Against Pylons said: "We are very hopeful that this will bring to an end to plans for the connection line."

"The elation has been tempered by the fact that this has taken so long and that it is still having an effect on people's lives."

"It has blighted the lives of ordinary people who have been unable to sell their homes because a pylon may have been within half a mile of their property. Once prospective buyers were aware of the line, many did not even bother to view."

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies also called for a prompt National Grid decision.

He said: "I very much hope that National Grid will quickly withdraw its proposal for its disfiguring 400kv line and massive substation."

Property consultants Davis Meade says it has been told work is being suspended on the pylon route.

Kathryn Lewis from the firm said: "I received a call from Bruton Knowles, agents for National Grid, that they are suspending all currently planned surveys along the pylon route across my clients' land in the Meifod, Llansantffraid areas."

"The surveys have been running to monitor ecology along the route and although non intrusive were a nuisance to the farmers affected."

Householder moves rooms over road crash fear



Raymond Perrin with one of the slates from his roof which was damaged when a vehicle crashed into it

A HOUSEHOLDER says he has had to move out of his bedroom for fear of his home being hit by large vehicles.

Raymond Perrin's cottage on the Oswestry to Llansantffraid road near Llanyblodwel, was hit by a large agricultural vehicle, with slates and brickwork damaged on the gable end of the property. The worried pensioner says the B4396 road at Tanat Cottages is simply not large enough for two big vehicles to pass safely.

He wants to see a speed limit priority road sign put up either side of his house to ensure drivers don't try to pass each other on the pinch point. The latest collision happened on Monday last week.

The 72-year-old said: "I think it happened

at lunchtime. It was definitely an agricultural vehicle as there as straw and everything embedded in the roof. The last time this happened was four months ago. It is a very dangerous stretch of road. It simply isn't wide enough for a car and a large vehicle to pass safely."

"I have been asking Shropshire Council for about a year to do something about this. The engineers have suggested certain signs but I want to see a speed limit and priority road signs so that drivers know they have to stop if something is coming the other way. The road is subject to the national 60 miles an hour speed limit and I have been told that a speed restriction would not be relevant because there have not been fatalities on the road."

"I have been so shaken after the collision that I have now moved out of my bedroom, which is on that side of the house, and into another room."

Dave Gradwell, Shropshire Council's area traffic engineer, said: "Mr Perrin made contact on Monday, September 8, to say his property had received further damage from a passing heavy goods vehicle. I explained to Mr Perrin that Shropshire Council has issued a works instruction to our term contractor, Ringway, for the installation of warning signage on both approaches to Tanat Cottages along the B4396 near Llanyblodwel and we are currently waiting for Ringway to carry out the works. Ringway has been instructed that this work needs to be carried out as a priority."

SPORT

Park ready to host another successful community games

FINAL preparations are being made for this weekend's Oswestry Community Games, with organisers promising a day of diverse sports and arts for visitors to try out.

The games will take place on Sunday in Cae Glas Park from 11am to 4.30pm.

Organiser Olive Knight said whatever the weather, there will be plenty of activities for people to join in with and try out.

He said: "We are delighted with the number of diverse local organisations, both arts and sports clubs, taking part demonstrating to local people what they do, and offering have-a-go sessions to encourage activities after the games."

"This is the third year the community games has run in this format and it promises to be yet another successful day, with the diversity of local organisations now taking part."

"Amy Hughes, our guest of honour, who rose to fame by running 53 marathons in 53 days, will be an inspiration on the day to encourage people to take up physical activity."

"We are therefore delighted to be supporting her charity 53 Foundation which encourages people with disabilities, to help them become more active and have the opportunity for a healthier life."

Activities will be overseen by Malcolm Lord, who will be master of ceremonies for the day, and local band Likeminded will provide music from the bandstand.

ENTERTAINMENT

Air show provides big funding boost

GRANTS totally £5,000 will be handed out to organisations thanks to the huge success of this year's Bob Jones Memorial Air Show.

Welshpool Town Council said the air show in June was so successful it was making the money available from the surplus.

The show is believed to have made a healthy profit this year, with the final figures due to be announced yesterday (Wednesday) at a meeting of the council's events and tourism committee.

Applications for the funding should be made to the town council.

INSIDE

Proud heritage is celebrated



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Refugee event organisers pleased with public support

Report by Sue Austin

THERE is strong public support for the UK and in particular Oswestry welcoming genuine refugees fleeing war-torn Syria, organisers of an event in the town have said.

The Refugees Welcome in Oswestry event was held in Festival Square in the town on Saturday.

Organisers said the overwhelming majority of people who stopped to talk and take away information were positive about Oswestry welcoming genuine refugees.

Members of the Shropshire Council private enterprise company Ip&e supported the event as did Shropshire Council Leader Keith Barrow also attended to show his support for the campaign to encourage the community to help refugees when they arrive.

Organiser Jools Payne said: "Naturally, there was some negativity and also some very valid concerns about impact on housing and services, which the Ip&e team were able to answer, but the vast majority of people were desperate to help in whatever way they could.

"There is enormous compassion for the plight of the Syrian refugees and it was heartwarming to see so many people record and verbalise their genuine desire to help."

Oswestry organisation Chalk CIC raised £166 towards its trip to deliver aid items to the refugee camp in Calais next month from public donations and sales of 'I am Hamsa' T-shirts and tracksuit bottoms donated by The Jools Payne Partnership.

Other organisations pledging help include Honeydops Gift Emporium in Church Street, The Willow Gallery in Willow Street and Oswestry Library.

Staff from Seventh Heaven Antique Beds in Chirk, Chirk Mill Antiques and Chalk CIC will take two vans out to help desperate migrants in Calais during the first week in October.

As well as donated items from clothing to tents and sleeping bags, the organisers are appealing for donations of money to fund the cost of the fuel and the ferry tickets.

Meanwhile Adcote School has announced a plan to offer a fully-funded boarding place to a Syrian refugee

The school in Little Ness near Oswestry is offering the place in coordination with the Boarding Schools Association.

● Pledge – See Page 6

Campaign launched over traffic worries



Bradford Arms Hotel landlord Bob Hedley pictured at the crossing in Llanymynech

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to bring in new safety measures along a main road on the Powys/Shropshire border.

Residents of Llanymynech, near Oswestry, say they want a new traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing across the A483 through the village.

They have warned that some motorists are ignoring the zebra crossing near the Bradford Arms Hotel, with worries that a child could be run over and killed.

At a public meeting held at the hotel landlord Bob Hedley said something needs to be done urgently.

He said: "It has been a problem for the nine years I have been here, people just ei-

ther don't see the zebra crossing as it is or they are not bothered about stopping.

"Just three weeks ago I was crossing and there was no vehicle in sight. Then a van came screaming up to me at about 40 or 50mph and the limit is 30mph.

"When I looked at him he gestured towards me that it was my fault. But I was stood on a zebra crossing."

Mr Hedley said that incident was the final straw and he has now launched a petition to get traffic lights introduced.

He added: "I see all the children and mothers coming through in the mornings and after school and it frightens me that a youngster or an elderly person for that mat-

ter are going to get hit and killed. Something needs to be done now before we are sat here saying we should have done this before there was an accident."

Councillor Arthur Walpole, Shropshire Council member for Llanymynech, also backed the campaign. "I have already raised the issue with the Welsh Assembly which is in charge of that part of trunk road and my colleague on the Welsh side of the village, Councillor Arwel Jones," he said.

"We need something to be done quick like new lighting to highlight the crossing is there and then hopefully we can copy our neighbouring village Pant and have traffic lights brought in."

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Future of visitor base is in doubt

THE future of one of Shropshire's tourist information centres is in doubt as council bosses look to pass on the service to other providers.

Oswestry's Mile End TIC opened in 1988 alongside the A5/A483 bypass and once welcomed 43,000 visitors a week through its doors.

But as tourists moved to the internet and smartphones to get their information, the number of visitors have dwindled, jobs were lost and opening hours were cut, the council said.

Now Shropshire Council is consulting over how the future of tourist information services in the Oswestry area should be delivered.

There are TICs at Mile End and in the heritage centre in Oswestry next to St Oswald's Parish Church.

Steve Charnley, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for business and culture, said: "We asked for expressions of interest for the out of town TIC and had two or three people come forward.

"We are now talking with a potential provider about the future of that tourist information centre.

"We cannot yet say whether it will remain or not at the current venue."

Councillor Charnley said that when the Mile End TIC first opened it was extremely busy but said the way people access information had changed dramatically.

Cannabis worth up to £1m seized

UP to £1 million worth of cannabis has been discovered by police during a raid on a Shropshire drugs factory.

West Mercia Police said officers swooped on an address on the Shropshire/Welsh border, arresting four men from the county.

The men, two aged 43 and two aged 38, were arrested at the scene on suspicion of cannabis cultivation.

They have all been released on police bail until November while inquiries continue.

The force said it would not confirm where the raid happened in the county "due to the nature of the operation".

It could not say whether it took place on the Shropshire border with North Wales or Powys.

Detectives said that the find was an "established and professional" cannabis factory with an estimated street value believed to be between £600,000 and £1 million.

Police release image over kidnap case



The suspect

POLICE searching for the kidnapper of a man who was seen being bundled in to the boot of a car have released an artist's impression of a man they want to question.

The kidnapping was reported to have taken place at 10.30pm on September 6, in the area of Meadow Farm Drive and Moston Road, in Sundorne, Shrewsbury.

Last week a 49-year-old man from Oswestry was arrested in connection with the incident. He has been released on bail until October 8 while inquiries continue.

Police say the kidnap victim was assaulted and forced in to the boot of a vehicle believed to be a silver Peugeot 407, bearing a 04 or 54 registration plate.

The vehicle left the scene and was seen a short while later driving down Darville, Severn Meadows.

It is not known where the car went from there or what happened to the man in the boot. The suspect, who was seen by a number of witnesses, is described as a white man of a noticeably stocky build and over 6ft tall. He

is believed to have spoken in an Eastern European accent.

Detective Inspector Mark Jones said: "We are growing increasingly concerned for the man who was being attacked and a number of police inquiries are ongoing to identify the victim, and to ensure he is safe."

Anyone with any information should contact police on 101.

Blooming hard work at orchard now paying off

Report by Sue Austin

VOLUNTEERS at a community orchard that sits alongside a heritage railway line are celebrating after winning a major Britain in Bloom award.

Four years ago the land on Gobowen Road in Oswestry was overgrown with brambles and weeds.

Now young trees are bending under the weight of apples, pears, damsons and plums while soft fruit bushes are full of tasty berries.

The Cambrian Railway Orchard Project so impressed judges in the Heart of England in Bloom competition that it has been awarded the Chairman's Award.

During his visit to Oswestry in the summer Heart of England chairman Roger Bache said that the highlight of the trip had been the orchard.

Andrew Tullo from the orchard project and the Cambrian railway said: "On behalf of fellow volunteers, we were glad to have contributed to Oswestry's successful 2015 regional bid.

"For our efforts to have been singled out and recognised in this way means a lot to all who have worked on and enjoy the orchard site as a community venture in a special place.

"It is satisfying that this example of an imaginative and futuristic approach using traditional methods is taken seriously, and it will help us to develop the project's true potential."

While volunteers at the orchard project were celebrating the special Britain in Bloom Award, Oswestry as a town was also celebrating.

The town once again struck gold in the large town category of the competition.



Ronanni Spreafico and Judy Lyon at the orchard on Gobowen Road, Oswestry

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man is jailed for drug offences

A MAN has been jailed for seven years after being caught in possession of nearly 1kg of cocaine while on bail for another drug offence.

Police found 999g of cocaine in the back of Glyn Edwards's van in May.

Mold Crown Court heard if the drug was to be diluted to the average purity it would have had a potential street value of £160,000.

The discovery followed an earlier arrest in January when Edwards had been stopped on College Road in Oswestry. On that occasion police found a quantity of cocaine with food bags and £1,500, along with two mobile phones which contained messages indicating he had been dealing the drugs.

Edwards, 31, of College Road in Oswestry, was sentenced on Monday after previously admitting two drugs-related charges.

Ceri Evans, for Edwards, said: "He accepts his role was significant and he had an understanding of the contents of the package."

Marquee stolen from showground

A MARQUEE set up as part of an event to teach children safety and citizenship lessons has been stolen.

Police say a number of people would have been needed to remove the large tent from Oswestry Showground, where it was being used as part of the Oswestry Lifeline event.

Whoever took the marquee between 3pm on Monday and 9am on Tuesday would have needed at least an estate car with the back seats folded down to drive it away, it has been claimed.

Mike Griffiths of the Rotary Club of Oswestry, which organises the annual Lifeline activities, said the theft was "particularly disappointing given the support of the schools, teachers and services such as police and fire who all buy into the six-day event". Oswestry Lifeline has been running for 10 years and teaches safety and anti-bullying messages to Year 6 children from 24 different primary schools.

Vehicle is damaged

A CAR was damaged while parked in Almond Avenue, Gobowen, near Oswestry.

The damage was caused to the black Chevrolet Tacuma between 9pm on Friday and 10.55am on Saturday last week. Damage was caused to the driver's side of the vehicle by scratching the body panels.



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Morrisons quiet over store bid in light of profit slump

Report by Sue Austin

BOSSES at retail giants Morrisons, which has announced it is to close 11 supermarkets, are remaining tight-lipped over its future involvement in Oswestry's £45 million Smithfield livestock market site regeneration.

The closures announcement comes after the firm reported its latest slump in profits.

Pre-tax profits for the half-year to August 2 fell 47 per cent to £126 million while like-for-like sales for the period dropped 2.7 per cent compared with the same period last year. New chief executive David Potts said the group faced a "long journey" to turn around its fortunes.

Retailers in search for more staff

THE Co-operative Food company is taking on eight new staff in two stores in Oswestry.

The retailer, which has vacancies at its Victoria Road and Cabin Lane stores, has announced it is searching for over 1,000 new employees UK-wide as it continues its investment to transform and expand its convenience business.

With many of The Co-op's store workforce employed for 16 hours or less each week, the company says the positions are ideal for those studying full-time, working around family needs or who are semi-retired.

People wanting more information can call into their local Co-operative food store or contact Matt Lee on (01691) 661091, or visit www.co-operative.jobs/food/store-regional-roles.

Meanwhile Aldi is to create 100 new jobs at its branches in Shropshire and will name the sites for two more early in the new year.

The budget supermarket currently has seven stores in Shropshire.

It is also building a new branch in Shrewsbury Road in Oswestry, and it revealed that it was also looking to build new sites in the south of Telford, Whitchurch, and possibly two in Shrewsbury.

The latest job announcement will see the company recruiting for its existing stores, plus the new Oswestry branch.

The new Oswestry branch will provide around a third of the employment, with 33 new roles created at the soon-to-open store.

Morrisons said it was selling 140 M local convenience stores for around £25 million to concentrate on its larger supermarkets.

Morrisons has stores in Shrewsbury, Wellington, Lawley, Market Drayton, Oswestry, Welshpool and Newtown.

The announcement throws more doubt on the future of the proposed Morrisons store at the Smithfield site in Oswestry.

The project has already seen the successful opening of a state-of-the-art livestock market.

The former livestock market land also has permission for a large food store, a Cineworld cinema and various restaurants as part of the proposed retail and leisure complex.

But the site has been cleared and fenced off with no sign of building work.

Neither Morrisons nor Cineworld will comment on the future of the site, saying there was no statement at this time.

Earlier this year Morrisons pulled out of plans to build a store just off the A41 in Newport in Shropshire.

Mr Potts said: "With great regret we are proposing to close 11 supermarkets. This is a difficult decision but one which we cannot see any way through to make those stores viable."

The closures are in addition to 10 supermarkets shut earlier this year. Morrisons had also announced earlier this year that it was shutting 23 M local stores.

Mr Potts said the closures being set out were mainly smaller-sized supermarkets. The move will result in a one-off cost of £20 million.

Mr Potts said of the firm's turnaround plans: "This will be a long and challenging journey but an important one for one of Britain's great retailers."

Morrisons said it had opened just one new store this year and did not plan to open any more in the remainder of 2015/16 while it expected the sales contribution from net new stores to be negative.

Heritage is brought to life



A tour of Brogyntyn Hall's grounds was held for the heritage celebrations

OSWESTRY is continuing to play a leading role in a nationwide movement to celebrate the country's heritage.

Buildings around the country, which are usually closed to the public, were opened up for the Heritage Open Days scheme.

The scheme has been taking place annually in Oswestry for five years, and Heritage Open Days has seen more than 19,000 visitors explore the history and heritage of the town and the surrounding areas.

From castles and archaeological digs to cinemas and train rides, Oswestry was one of many towns up and down the country to show what it had to offer.

This year the event took place from Thursday until Sunday with one of the

highlights being the town's open air market on Saturday where traders and shoppers celebrated shopping through the ages.

Guided walks took place around the town, which included the 3,000-year-old Old Oswestry Hill Fort.

Other activities included train rides on the steam train at Cambrian Heritage Railways and on the Tanat Valley Light Railway, vintage bus and canal boat trips, a medieval living history event at Whittington Castle, open churches in St Martins, Llanyblodwel, Llanymynech, Kinnerley, Melverley and Halston, and a Wild West-themed activity session in the Willow Community Garden. There was also a tour around the grounds of Brogyntyn Hall.



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Brave schoolgirl Aaliyah has extra challenges to face

Report by Sue Austin

LIKE many youngsters, Aaliyah Jones started secondary school last week, looking forward to a new challenge in her life.

But Aaliyah, from Pant near Oswestry, has more challenges to face than meeting new friends and stepping up to new ways of learning.

For she suffers from a condition called CMT which can cause balance problems and falls as well as chronic fatigue.

Only 3,000 people in the UK have been diagnosed but a charity supporting people with the inherited neurological illness Charcot-Marie-Tooth, says it believes there are up to 20,000 others that are suffering without specialist help.

Investment boost for cemetery

THE latest work to improve Oswestry's cemetery will bring the town council's investment into the site to about £250,000.

New public toilets are being provided close to the front entrance of the cemetery at the junction of Shrewsbury Road and Victoria Road.

New pathways have been installed and the restoration of the chapel in the centre of the cemetery has allowed funeral services to once again be held within the walls of the cemetery. The council is now looking to the future to see if a new entrance can be installed at the far end of the cemetery.

Hundreds of visitors visit each week to tend the graves of loved ones.

Town clerk David Preston said the council took over the running of the site from the joint burial board in 2008.

"Over the past seven years there has been a large programme of improvements," he said.

"There has been a huge investment in equipment, pathways have been resurfaced and the chapel has been completely restored. This has been welcomed by bereaved relatives and it is used for funerals on a regular basis.

"We have invested about £250,000 since taking over responsibility."

Now a new building is going up at the main entrance. It will include public conveniences and a staff room for the town council workers. At the moment visitors to the graves who want to spend a penny have to use a portable toilet.

Charcot-Marie-Tooth, named after the three scientists who discovered it, is currently incurable. It causes muscle weakness in the lower legs and hands, leading to problems with restricted mobility, uncontrollable pain and carrying out tasks needing fine motor skills, such as fastening shoe laces.

Aaliyah's mum, Paula Jones, said she knew that her daughter had balance problems from a very early age, but said it had taken until very recently for the CMT to be diagnosed.

She said: "It was a physiotherapist from the Orthopaedic Hospital that noticed something was wrong and suggested CMT."

"It turns out that both myself and Aaliyah's dad have the genes that have led to her having what is an inherited neurological disease. But we have asked our families and they don't remember anyone having the condition."

Mrs Jones said that her daughter not only had mobility problems but did not have the same nerve sense in her hands and feet.

She said: "It means she might not be able to feel heat and could suffer burns if she touches something hot."

The CMT has not stopped Aaliyah, who is now a pupil at Llanfyllin High School, enjoying life and she has found a sport that she enjoys in tennis.

"She might not be as quick to the ball as others but her coach says she has a very good eye/hand control," Mrs Jones said.

Karen Butcher from the charity, CMT UK said: "We want to reach out to people who may not be members of CMT UK and urge them to get in touch."

"We know what they're going through and the challenges they face, so we can answer their questions, put them in touch with other people and families with CMT and tell them where they can get help and advice."

To find out more visit www.cmt.org.uk or contact 0800 652 6316.



Aaliyah Jones from Pant suffers from the inherited neurological illness CMT

Dog stolen at car boot sale

THIEVES have stolen a tiny, 15-week old puppy from a car boot sale.

Alice, a Shih Tzu/Pug cross was unclipped from a stall at the Chirk airfield sale on Sunday morning.

Owner Tash Jones, 30, from Ruthin, said witnesses have reported seeing a boy aged about 10, who was with a group of men, tucking a small dog inside his jumper.

She says her children, two-year-old Milo and eight-year-old Kai, are inconsolable.

"I left Alice with my dad while we visited a very ill relative in Bristol," she said. "Dad was doing a car boot sale to help my sister who is going to uni."

She said it seems that her dad was distracted by a group of men while the youngster grabbed the puppy.

She said: "Kai has wanted a dog for so long. He is shy and Alice has really brought him out of his shell. I would do anything to get her back."

"She is microchipped and we have informed the police. If she is brought back there will be no questions asked and the person who returns her will be compensated regardless of whether they took her. She was the runt of the litter so had her early and we have hand-reared her so we are really attached to her."

A Facebook page, Bring Alice Home, has more than 2,000 likes and has been shared across Britain. Anyone with information is asked to contact Tash on 07805 833182, or contact PC Warburton of North Wales Police on 101 with the reference S140222.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

I've been picturing the scene in my mind for days – and can't quite believe it happened. The phone rings and multiple Grammy-winning legend and flamboyant superstar Elton John picks up the receiver. At the other end of the line a voice says: "Vladimir Putin here Sir Elton, I understand you want to bend my ear about gay rights in my country of Russia."

It doesn't seem a likely scenario but the legend that is Sir Elton is adamant the call happened, despite a statement to the contrary from the Russian President.

Putin's alleged phone call followed harsh criticism from John in neighbouring Ukraine, where he met the president, Petro Poroshenko, to promote lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights (LGBT).

Sir Elton said he would like to sit down with Mr Putin to discuss the situation.

The musician is popular in Russia and has long campaigned to end the country's law against the "propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors" which means it is illegal to disseminate material on LGBT rights, which has increased homophobic violence. The Kremlin has since released a statement denying a conversation ever took place. Are they telling the truth or has the pop star been the subject of a hoax call?

After three days in Paris I may never moan again about Welsh-pool's traffic problems which pale into insignificance against the nightmare situation faced by drivers every day in the French capital. It's over 10 years since I last encountered the streets of Paris and I can only say it's now twice as bad.

Luckily I was a passenger on this occasion and my driver explained, in broken English, that traffic flows relentlessly from North, South, East and West with the city's notorious Peripherique simply unable to cope with the growing burden.

I was even more fortunate to be the guest of France's premier motor manufacturer Peugeot as one of the UK's two representatives in the European finals of an international golfing event (I had a good partner, before you ask).

And that meant lavish entertainment and a unique opportunity to see the sights of Paris while being dined on The River Seine.

The evening was made even more memorable by sitting alongside the delightful 20-year-old Miss France, Camille Cerf, who was on board to present the golfing awards.

Her English was as bad as my French but it was quickly plain to see that France has a good chance of winning the Miss World title this year.

Just a pity about their roads.



Syrian refugees arrive on a dingy after crossing from Turkey to the Greek island of Lesbos



People make their way along the railway track in Hungary heading for Austria



A Syrian refugee feeds milk to his daughter after they survived a sea crossing from Turkey to Greece

Councils' pledge to help refugees fleeing Syria

Refugees who seek asylum in the area can be sure of every possible help, say the leaders of our councils

COUNCIL leaders have pledged to do their best to help refugees from Syria who seek asylum in the area.

Both Shropshire Council and Powys County Council have said they will do all they can to make sure people fleeing the war zone receive the help they need should they choose to settle in the region.

It comes after Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron said the UK would accept up to 20,000 refugees from camps surrounding Syria and that the UK has a "moral responsibility" to those displaced by the conflict.

Borders

On Europe's eastern borders, high numbers of refugees have been risking theirs and their family's lives to escape.

Many of them are going to extraordinary lengths, crossing seas and clinging to lorries in the hope of reaching safety.

Shropshire Council has said it will do its best to help respond to the crisis.

Last week leader Keith Barrow, Shropshire Councillor for Oswestry South, held an informal meeting of the council's cabinet to discuss coordinating the county's efforts.

Councillor Barrow said the cabinet had agreed to set up a cross-party working group.

It has also been confirmed that the authority will be dedicating a full-time officer, working alongside a number of organisations, including Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, the Department of Work and Pensions, the county's clin-



People gather at the railway track in a camp near the Hungarian border

ical commissioning group and West Mercia Police. Councillor Barrow said that while the majority of people want to provide help for refugees, some have expressed concerns about the impact on local services.

The council boss, who on Saturday was in Oswestry to back businesswoman Jools Payne in her campaign to set up a register of people happy to help refugees locally, said the authority would be doing its best to help those taken in find work and become part of the community.

we can find them accommodation and get them jobs because that is what is important.

"This is a humanitarian crisis and we have to respond – as the majority of people in Shropshire want us to – and the other point is a lot of these people might have skills which are beneficial to Shropshire."

Councillor Barrow suggested that the people of Shropshire would provide a warm welcome for refugees and the council would do its bit to ensure that people could provide their own help.

Crisis

Meanwhile Powys County Council has also pledged to do what it can to ease the refugee crisis.

Barry Thomas, leader of Powys County Council, said: "The council is deeply moved by the plight of the refugees fleeing the war in Syria and we want to offer a hand of friendship."

"In Powys we are eager to help and fully play our part in the co-ordinated national response to the refugee crisis."

"We will be working closely with the WLGA and Welsh Government to find ways to provide assistance to refugees across a range of issues such as housing, education and basic welfare."

"We will be doing this through the Vulnerable Person's Relocation Scheme, which offers financial support to help councils provide relief."

"In Powys we can provide a safe and warm welcome to refugees who are in desperate need. We have a strong community spirit in our county, and desire to do what we can to help these vulnerable people who have been forced to flee the most horrendous conditions in their country."

Meanwhile, Telford & Wrekin Council is also committed to playing its part in providing help and support for the refugees. The council's leader Kuldip Sahota said there was a moral duty for the borough to stand side by side with other parts of the UK and provide assistance.

Benefits

"Refugees do not qualify for benefits, they do not qualify for social housing and they cannot work until they go through the process."

"We hope the Government can get them through the system quickly and

WORKING FOR YOU



The decision last week by Andrea Leadsom MP, Minister of State for Energy, to throw out plans for four wind farms in Montgomeryshire is a huge relief for those who would have been affected by the proposal to build high-voltage 400kV overhead cables through some of the most unspoilt areas of my constituency, connecting the wind farms in Mid Wales to the National Grid.

Glyn Davies and I have been campaigning on this issue since the start and I first organised and chaired a meeting in Parliament in 2011, attended by MPs, senior local councillors and representatives from National Grid. The arguments against the pylons have been well rehearsed. Constituents voiced justifiable concerns over health, tourism, environmental damage, property prices and quality of life. Residents, local organisations, councillors and MPs from surrounding constituencies have all been united in their opposition to these plans which were of huge concern to those who fight to protect and preserve the countryside. An inquiry into the project closed in May 2014 and the planning inspector's recommendations were submitted to previous Energy Secretary Ed Davey, who postponed the decision until after May's General Election.

Soon after the election, I met firstly the new Secretary of State Amber Rudd and then Andrea Leadsom. I explained the background to the issue and the fierce local opposition. I am delighted that they both listened closely to the arguments and permission to build four of the five wind farms has finally been refused. It is equally important that the Secretary of State has taken such decisive action since the General Election to combat these vast subsidised wind farms which chop up birds, produce little energy and cost taxpayers' money in the form of higher energy bills. She has announced recently that the Government intends to stop new onshore wind farms from accessing the Renewables Obligation subsidy scheme from next April while also tightening planning rules for the sector. This means that 2,500 planned turbines will now not go ahead. The Secretary of State also confirmed that no more on shore wind farm schemes will be allowed unless they have the support of local people. She has outlined plans to ensure that it will be local councils rather than central government who have the power in future to decide on wind farm projects in consultation with local people. This fulfils the promise made by the Conservative Party at the time of the last election and will prevent pylons from cutting through the North Shropshire countryside.

Owen Paterson
North Shropshire MP

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A visit is also made to Bath. The city is famous for its magnificent temple and bathing complex which still flows with natural hot water. Other architectural wonders include the Royal Crescent, the Circus and Pulteney Bridge which crosses the River Avon.

There are many sights and attractions in the area to choose from, including dozens of museums, and the Hop On-Hop Off sightseeing bus tour (entrance fees payable locally).

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Tories quick to put unions in firing line

NOW that all the electoral dust has settled, I note the Government's haste to 'punish' the trade unions.

I refer to the Tories intent to interfere with the political levy which is a tiny amount of union subs, insisting that potential members should be allowed to opt out if they wish.

That option is already there and there is no need to legislate.

Anyone in or about to join up to a union is told about the political levy, and if they do not want to pay that, they needn't and also, if any existing member wishes to opt out, they can, at any time, without fear of

discrimination. The Tories use this piece of nonsense, to try to stop donations to the Labour Party out of yes, political spite!

The money given to the Labour Party pales in comparison with the amounts given to the Tories from wealthy private donors. We all know that they pay money to a Tory party, that supports and helps in return.

If the Tories shout and complain about the Labour opposition being given money from the union paymasters as they call them, and accuse them of doing what they are told by so-called union bullies, what excuse and difference is there in taking money from private donors, who expect

something for their 'investments'? Now the Government seeks to stop certain sections of public services from going on strike. While fully understanding the discomfort a strike brings, we also know that any stoppage from, say, rail or travel services, will disrupt things. It is a fundamental right to withdraw your labour as a last resort. If society didn't have the right to say no, how long would it be before the Tories tried to remove any rights which hindered their master plan, to emasculate the unions, and stop anyone challenging Tory dictat.

G DUCKETT
Dawley

Aerial shot shows village back in 1999



How much can a village change in 16 years? If you live in Selattyn, here's a chance to judge for yourself, thanks to this aerial view which dates from around January 1999.

Cyclists need to be retrained on the road rules

ONCE again I find myself complaining about the thoughtless actions of cyclists.

It states quite clearly that, if there is no cycle lane, then you must use the road, not the footpath, which is supposed to be for pedestrians only with concession for wheelchair and disabled transportation only allowed at the politeness of pedestrians.

The other day I was walking along Harlescott Lane, close to the railway crossing, when I heard cycle bells being rung behind me. The next thing I know I am being told to "get out of the way".

I turned to see a middle aged man on a racing cycle, so naturally I told him of the rule that regards cyclists on footpaths. After what seemed ages of argument he conceded and used the road properly, after apologising for the foul language he had used.

Until proper cycling tests are used at schools or a retraining facility for those who are too stubborn to adhere to the rules, this problem will only manifest itself.

M EDDIES
Shrewsbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
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EMAIL

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chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Everyone must play their part

IT would appear that David Cameron has now decided that integration will be part of the solution to our terrorist problem.

Some of us have been saying for years that all the concentration on multiculturalism has been a bad thing for the country.

It has allowed the setting up of areas that have no bonding with rest of the UK and because of fear of being called racist no one has challenged this except a few.

This must change.

D L BARNETT
Arleston

Replica military trenches are too clean to be realistic

THE front page of last week's Chronicle showed a picture of a replica WWI trench and told us: "It is a fascinating open-air classroom offering an insight into life in the trenches in the First World War."

It was no 'Vivid reminder of trench warfare'.

It is too clean, every bit of earth below ground was neatly panelled in wood, only wallpaper and a toilet was missing. The history I was taught regarding that period showed those trenches to be knee deep in mud covering dead bodies and human excrement and the trench walls falling in on the occupants.

The picture gives no indication whatsoever of the horror of the real thing.

It would have been better to just dig the trenches then walk away and leave the weather and the elements to produce a more realistic environment six months later - the present 'replica' will be of no interest at all to our children and therefore teach them nothing.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Letters Budget was not war on poverty but on the poor

THE first budget from the Conservatives in almost 20 years was not a war on poverty, but a war on the poor.

We must not be fooled into thinking that this will help those who are on low pay.

The independent Institute of Fiscal Studies says that around three million working families will have less money to take home thanks to the budget from the Conservatives.

Average weekly pay in Montgomeryshire is already lower than the average for Wales.

Many people here are struggling anyway, but with these cuts to their take home pay they will suffer even more.

George Osborne pretends that the increase in the minimum pay to £7.20 an hour is enough.

The suggested living wage outside of London is set at £7.65, and Osborne's meagre offer won't even come in until next year.

On top of that, the Chancellor is financially crippling families that rely on tax credits.

The Conservatives have twisted the living wage policy in a pitiful attempt to garner our favour while introducing cuts across the board which the Liberal Democrats prevented them from doing while in coalition.

David Cameron wilfully failed to explain these policies three months ago, and is now introducing them with zero regard for the poor or the young.

JANE DODD
Welshpool

Worries rise over this virus

AS the CEO of national charity The British Polio Fellowship, I was shocked and saddened to read of the discovery of a new polio-like virus in America which has so far led to 100 children developing paralysis.

Worryingly, the virus is spread across 34 different states, meaning the chances of it being controlled has been reduced drastically.

Since the global initiative to eradicate polio was established in 1988, the number of cases of polio was lowered by more than 99 per cent in 30 years.

Through routine vaccination, and estimated 350,000 cases in 1988 were reduced to a reported 650 in 2011.

However, the fight to eradicate polio still goes on to this day as news like this shows.

I urge people to not become complacent as the hardest work ever is in front of us.

With a bit more work, we can make the Polio eradication dream set up in 1988 a reality.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Progress is made on tramway plan

A NARROW gauge tramway track which has not been used in 80 years is ready to be restored after a power company donated thousands of pounds of work to open up the route.

Glyn Valley Tramway Trust is looking to restore the track as far as Chirk Railway Station after Scottish Power/Manweb scheduled works on its power cables. During the work, which has taken place over the past two weeks, an underground cable that lies below the former trackbed, and overhead cables, have both been rerouted, opening up the site ready to be restored by the tramway trust.

Scottish Power/Manweb will hand over the site to the Glyn Valley Tramway Trust tomorrow (Friday) in a ceremony with the Mayor of Wrexham and Chirk's borough councillors Ian Roberts and Terry Evans.

David Cooper, a member of the Glyn Valley Tramway Trust, said members were delighted with the work which has been done to allow them to move on with the restoration of the line.

Civic society is set to have meeting

THE first event in Oswestry and District Civic Society's programme is a talk by Keir Davidson talking on Landscapes of the Imagination: the art and gardens of Humphry Repton (1788-1816).

Humphry Repton is regarded as the successor to Capability Brown and this talk outlines Repton's career and examines his artistic vision. The talk will be held in the Parish Centre on Broad Walk on Thursday next week at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Members do not pay an entrance fee but non-members are asked to pay £4 which is repaid if they join the society. Call (01691) 661685 for more details.

Father makes plea over soldier daughter's death

Report by Sue Austin

THE father of a young soldier who died at the controversial Deepcut Army barracks has made a passionate appeal for anyone who may be able to help find out what happened to his daughter to come forward.

Cheryl James died from a bullet wound to the head at the Surrey army camp 20 years ago.

She was just 18. An inquest recorded an open verdict. But parents Des and Doreen James from Llanymynech near Oswestry have campaigned for a fuller investigation.

A new inquest was ordered, led by Brian Barker QC, who last week held a pre-inquiry hearing at Surrey Coroner's court in Woking.

Following the hearing Mr James appealed for help from anyone who had relevant information.

He said: "The thing I feel most strongly about is that there are still lots of people with evidence to give who have not yet come forward to this inquest."

"The coroner gave an assurance that the Official Secrets Act is highly unlikely to be an issue for anyone with relevant evidence to give and this includes serving or past service personnel."

"I am speaking directly to those people. This is our final opportunity to discover what really happened to her."

Last week's hearing was told that an exhumation of the young soldier's body had taken place during the summer to allow for a new post mortem.

After the post mortem close members of the family reburied their daughter for a second time in a small private ceremony.



Des James with a photograph of his daughter Cheryl James who died at Deepcut barracks

Drink-driver banned for 14 months

A MAN who drank half a bottle of whiskey and got in to an argument with his girlfriend before making off in his car has been disqualified from driving for 14 months.

Darren McDonald of Llys Lane, Oswestry, admitted driving a car while above the legal alcohol limit when he appeared at Shrewsbury Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

The 27-year-old was fined £110 and ordered to pay costs of £85, a surcharge of £20 and court costs of £150.

Abbie Hall, prosecuting, said that on August 31 police received a telephone call from McDonald's girlfriend who said that he had driven off in his car saying he was going to kill himself by throwing himself off a bridge.

"He had drunk half a bottle of whiskey," said Mrs Hall.

"Police attended the house and found the defendant's car outside the property."

"The engine and tyres were warm. Officers spoke to the defendant and he appeared drunk."

"They requested a roadside breath test which gave a reading of 50 milligrammes of alcohol in 100ml of breath."

The legal limit is 35 milligrammes.

Firm goes green with new vehicle

HOLLIS Office Solutions, the Oswestry-based provider of business support solutions, has gone green with the acquisition of a Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV, an ultra-low emission SUV.

The new vehicle replaces an ageing diesel saloon car.

It will enhance the company's ability to support customers throughout Shropshire, North Wales and the West Midlands. The Outlander PHEV is the world's first plug-in hybrid SUV.



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Speed cuts are planned near schools

A 20mph speed limit will be introduced outside 15 Powys schools, including some in the Welshpool area, in a bid to improve road safety.

The Welsh Assembly said it will bring in the part-time zones as part of a £4.5 million three-year programme to improve safety outside schools in the country. The zones will be in place around school drop-off and pick-up times, with the roads reverting to their regular speed limit at other times of the day.

Schools selected in Mid Wales include Ysgol Dyffryn Banw, Llangadfan, near Welshpool; Llanfair Caereinion CP School; Buttington/Trewern CP School, near Welshpool; Gungrog School, Welshpool and Caereinion High School, Llanfair Caereinion.

Edwina Hart, Welsh Assembly transport minister, said the zones will be installed at some point over the next three years.

Mrs Hart said electronic signs will be put up near the schools and will be activated during the temporary speed limit times. She said: "Evidence shows that 20mph speed limits can improve driver behaviour and reduce speeds around schools."

Commons award for runner Amy

OSWESTRY runner Amy Hughes has been presented with an award in the House of Commons.

She was presented with a Rising Star award after raising more than £53,000 for the Isabelle Lottie Foundation, which supports the families of children with brain tumours.

The 26-year-old was named as one of the Rising Stars in Sport after she ran 53 marathons in 53 days.

Local talent thrives at Rocking Horse Studios

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we celebrate Rocking Horse Studios.

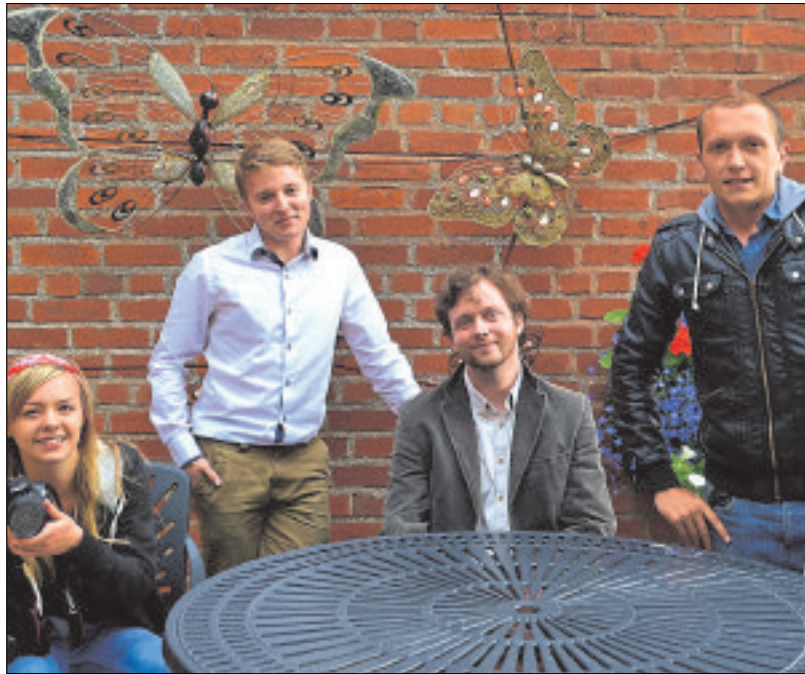
Rocking Horse Studios is Oswestry's own film company, specialising in commercial video production and is currently under production on the full-length feature film, Run for Your Life.

Run by Oswestrians Gareth Thomas, Meryl Cook, Ben Davies and Adam Piggott, Rocking Horse Studios has just finished filming Oswestry's three-day Gigfest, and a commissioned documentary on the Vintage Rally held at the British Ironwork Centre.

"We have deliberately chosen to build the company around talented local youngsters," Mr Thomas said. "Our team is not afraid to try things differently, an attitude which allows us great flexibility when confronted with unforeseen challenges, something which always occurs during the complex filming process."

Run for Your Life, is aimed at raising awareness of the real but thorny topic of bullying. "The entire crew, actors and production staff are local talents, as we actively seek to keep sourcing our resources from our own community," Mr Thomas said.

Rocking Horse Studios can be contacted at: rockinghorsestudios1207@gmail.com or on 07528589659.



The team from Rocking Horse Studios prides itself on giving local people a chance to show off their talents

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moves are made to save libraries

CAMPAIGNERS have launched a bid to save libraries from closure.

Shropshire Libraries Yes Campaign branded plans to "offload" libraries to volunteers as "totally inadequate".

Villagers in Gobowen near Oswestry have already held talks about the future management and use of their library as consultation continues.

Members of the Shropshire Libraries Yes Campaign say they want to challenge Shropshire Council to come up with a solution that will ensure facilities remain for future generations.

A public rally will take place at the United Reformed Church, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury on September 24 at 7pm.

Organisers are asking anyone hoping to attend to email shroplibyes@gmail.com.

Neil Willcox, of Shropshire Council, said: "No conclusions have been made but we do know that we need to do things differently and at a lower cost. This is about exploring ideas and options."

Four in court over assault allegation

FOUR people have appeared in court accused of assaulting a man with a pair of hair straighteners and an empty vodka bottle.

Corrina Hanson, 37, of Sydney Cottage Drive in Bridgnorth and Kerri Edge, 34, Peter Ralphs, 44, and Elijah Roberts, 20, all of Caer Road, Oswestry, are charged with causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Thomas Mellor. It is alleged that Mr Mellor was attacked at an address on Caer Road on Sunday.

Magistrates at Shrewsbury remanded the four into custody to appear at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Monday.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Farm contest is looking for entries

FARMERS are being urged to enter a national competition which recognises dedicated dairy stock managers. NFU Cymru said it is seeking entries for its Welsh Dairy Stockperson of the Year award, which was won last year by Carl Poole from Meifod, near Welshpool.

Nominations are invited from throughout Wales from those involved in the management of dairy cattle who are working within the dairy industry. The winner will receive £300 and Welsh slate engraved cheese board.

The closing date for entries is Monday next week. The winner will be announced on October 20.

To enter the competition visit www.nfu-cymru.org.uk

Village social club set to celebrate

A 1950s night will be held to celebrate the 65th anniversary of a village social club.

Llanwddyn Community Centre, near Lake Vyrnwy, will throw the party on October 3 at 7.30pm.

Ruth Powell, one of the organisers, said: "Our hall is 65 years old this year and we are having a 1950s party to celebrate."

"Fancy dress is welcome and there will be a disco, food and bar."

"We're looking forward to another great night."

"The 1970s night held early in the year was fantastic."

Tickets cost £8.

To book tickets call (01691) 870501 or send an email to info@llanwddynvents.co.uk

Business mentors are helping entrepreneurs

Report by Sue Austin

MORE than 50 people in north Powys are being helped to develop businesses in the area thanks to volunteer mentors.

The Severn Valley Effect project was set up last year to help enterprise and entrepreneurship.

It sees local business people give up their own time to help other entrepreneurs and enterprises, often providing specific support in areas such as design, retail, manufacturing, sales and marketing.

"We're very pleased at the way we've helped so many individuals in the area in either establishing businesses or growing their existing enterprises," said SV Effect Enterprise facilitator Mary Tudor.

"Having local business people and individuals - a resource team of local volunteers - means users of the SV Effect are not only gaining expertise, but they know they are talking to people who understand the area and the business environment."

Rebecca Lloyd of Coed y Dinas in Welshpool is one member of the 70 strong resource team. She said: "The basis of the SV Effect is to develop and support the growth of local enterprises and being able to help by passing on my skills to others is very satisfying."

"We have a strong and buoyant business community in the Severn Valley and by working collectively we can make a difference and as a result create jobs, business growth and opportunities for people from all parts of the area."

War events set to continue in town



Richard and Lyn Gumm have been getting into the 1940s spirit during the Welshpool Remembers programme of events

A PROGRAMME of events in Welshpool to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War is continuing.

The next event in the Welshpool Remembers programme will be a spectacular evening tattoo at Powis Castle on Saturday.

Based in the castle courtyard the tattoo will feature Newtown Silver Band, Powys & Gwent Army Cadet Band, Newtown Male Voice Choir, a lone piper and singer Paul Dark.

The event will climax with a fireworks finale.

Following the tattoo there will be an evening on September 25 featuring Julie Summers, the author of a number of Second World War books which have been made into the TV series Home Fires. Past events include exhibitions, a VE day celebration with a beacon lighting and a concert with Generation Game favourite, Isla St Clair.

And earlier this month Welshpool turned the clock back to the 1940s when the town was packed with people, many of them getting into the spirit of the event by dressing up in costume.

Easyrouteon the horizon for ramblers

THE Welshpool Ramblers, led by Gwyneth Prosser, will be walking in the Clunbury area on Sunday.

The 'easy' graded seven-mile circular route will start at 10am from The Hundred House pub car park on the Clun to Craven Arms Road, B4368, OS Map Ref: SO 360809.

There will be a short climb in the morning which will take approximately 20 minutes.

Meet at the start of the walk or at 9am in the upper part of Church Street car park, Welshpool, near to the Tourist Information Centre, from where shared transport may be available. All are welcome, but no dogs are allowed on the walk. Further information can be obtained on (01686) 630572.

Members are informed that the group AGM date has been altered and will now take place on October 9 with an earlier commencement time of 6pm.

The Armoury, Welshpool, venue remains unaltered.

With fine weather throughout the day on September 6, Jim Rowley led a group of six Welshpool Ramblers on a walk from Llanbryn-mair.

Energy switch scheme available

RESIDENTS are being urged to join forces to get a better energy deal through an energy switching scheme.

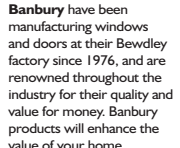
Cyd Cymru / Wales Together is a collective energy switching scheme for Wales. Powys County Council is encouraging residents to register and get a better energy deal.

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An architect's impression of what an underground home could look like, complete with swimming pool



The land at Hopton Hill at Hopton near Nesscliffe

Going underground!

HERE'S a chance to live in a luxury home in the heart of the Shropshire hills – deep underground.

Four acres of land at Hopton Hill, Hopton, Nesscliffe, near Oswestry are up for sale with planning permission granted for an "earth sheltered eco house".

That means digging into the ground and creating a luxury subterranean bolt hole that cannot be seen from the outside.

The guide price for the land is £150,000 with

Report by Sue Austin

the buyer having an option to purchase an additional four acres of land for £50,000.

Director of Halls, the company handling the sale, David Giles, said: "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for someone to build their dream eco home in a fabulous location."

"The views from this land on Hopton Hill are a sight to behold and to be able to live there is a totally unique opportunity. You would stand absolutely no chance of getting

planning permission for a traditional, above ground home on this site, so that's why the owner looked at developing an underground home."

The landowner brought in architects NC Homes of Wilmslow, which recently designed a luxury underground home in Cheshire, not yet built.

However those plans include an underground swimming pool with a stainless steel chute from a bedroom, which allows the owner to roll out of bed and slide down to the pool.



A further architect's impression of what the underground house at Hopton could look like

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Philip Culver and Graham Thompson at work on the site of Oswestry's motte and bailey castle



Experts have been carefully examining the site

Past is uncovered

SECRETS of an ancient monument hidden away for centuries are being uncovered.

An archaeological dig on the top of the mound of Oswestry's motte and bailey castle has produced some fascinating results.

The dig is part of ongoing work, now in its second year, led by archaeologist, Roger Cooper.

More than a dozen archaeologists and skilled volunteers are giving up their time to work on the site high about the modern day town until

Report by Sue Austin

tomorrow (Friday). Until last week small sections of walls stood on the grassed mound of the castle.

But the volunteers have uncovered more stone walling underneath the earth which, Mr Cooper says, have already begun to answer some of the questions the dig was posing.

"We wanted to know if there were any remains below the ground and we have already discovered that there certainly are," he said.

He said that it was now suspected that the eastern wall was not 'in situ' - that is the stones are not where they would have been originally. However, he said the western wall was now thought to be original.

"We are beginning to suspect that we have found the wall edge and possibly evidence of rooms inside the castle walls," he said.

The dig has been made possible thanks to support from Oswestry Town Council, Borderland Rotary, Historic England and HODS, the national Heritage Open Days body.



Several sections of the castle remain above ground and the latest archaeological dig is finding parts of the castle below the ground

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Source: ABC

Shropshire Focus

A 12-page supplement packed with the best our county has to offer

1 Shropshire Focus



Beautiful county truly is a photographer's dream

WITH its glorious landscapes, rolling hills, stunning wildlife and eye-catching features, it is no wonder Shropshire is a photographer's dream.

The county is a natural wonder at any time

of the year, and no more so than at this time of year when the summer leaves turn brown and autumn arrives in all its glory.

The changeable weather has allowed many professional photographers to try out their skills in Shropshire in the past few weeks.

Shropshire Star photographer Jamie Ricketts recently captured an eye-catching image of the county's glorious rural landscape when he was in the Withington area near Shrewsbury.

The image truly captures one of the county's most glorious assets – its stunning land-

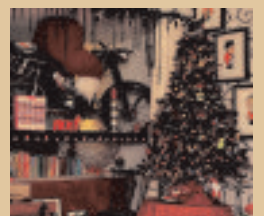
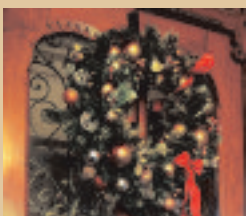
scapes which have been loved by so many over generations.

As autumn comes and goes and winter arrives there will be plenty of other opportunities for us all to enjoy the incredible views the country provides whether it is walking in the picturesque Shropshire Hills, wandering

around the streets and lanes of our county towns or exploring the region's many historic buildings and properties.

As local people and visitors know there is no place quite like Shropshire. Take a look inside our special supplement to read about some of the highlights.

THE HALL AT ABBEY-CWM-HIR A REMARKABLE CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE



The Hall at Abbey-Cwm-Hir near Llandrindod Wells in Mid Wales is a celebrated tours venue with its combination of gothic architecture, stunning interiors, fascinating collections and beautiful

gardens. The house will again be decorated in all 52 rooms for Christmas from 1st Nov 2015 to 6th Jan 2016. Each will have their own Christmas tree and individual decorative theme.

Entrance is £16.00pp for the house tour, or £14.00pp for groups or return visitors.

Bookings for individuals, small and large groups are now being taken on **01597 851727** or by emailing **info@abbeycwmhir.com**

GIFT VOUCHERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

Guide honour for Goldstone



Goldstone Hall proprietor John Cushing, head gardener Nick Huxley and head chef Chris Weatherstone looking at produce on the site



Goldstone Hall Hotel and Restaurant was founded 30 years ago and is still run by the same family today, with John Cushing as proprietor



The gardens at Goldstone Hall are regularly opened to the public

A Shropshire restaurant has been revealed as one of the successful eateries to make it into the Good Food Guide.

Goldstone Hall, near Market Drayton, has been chosen to be included in the 2016 edition of the Waitrose Good Food Guide.

The restaurant, run by Chris Weatherstone, was included after anonymous inspections by the Good Food Guide experts and reader's recommendations.

The Good Food Guide, owned by Waitrose, has been reviewing the UK's best restaurants, pubs and cafés since 1951.

The awards honour the best independent restaurants, pubs and cafés from around the country, recognising the top dining establishments across 10 UK regions.

Head chef Chris joined Goldstone in April 2015 and said it was an incredible achievement to be in the guide after only four months.

He added: "The Goldstone kitchen garden is one of the most impressive at a hotel and restaurant in the UK and is a fantastic resource to bring flavour and freshness on to the plate."

"I have been a great admirer of Goldstone and John Cushing's team for several years and to be able to work with them is incredibly exciting."

John Cushing, proprietor, said: "We got to know Chris four years ago and I have watched

him develop his extraordinary talent in the Cotswolds and I am delighted that he has joined us in Shropshire."

"It has been an ambition to bring together a great chef and bountiful gardener and this national recognition is a great pat on the back to very hard working talent."

The development of the kitchen garden has been a 10-year project nurtured by head gardener, Nick Huxley.

Goldstone Hall Hotel and Restaurant was founded by Helen Ward and her son John Cushing over 30 years ago, is run by the Cushing family still today.

For further information contact John Cushing at Goldstone Hall, 01630 661202.

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Schoolbag classics now extinct

Report by Kate Whiting

SEPTEMBER is back to school time, and for Shropshire youngsters this means a new school uniform, a shiny new pencil case and all the essentials to put in it.

But for modern parents, pens and pencils are just the start of it – there are also smartphones, tablets and all sorts of tech and gadgets to consider. And these things cost a fair deal more than a multi-pack of erasers and rulers.

In fact, according to a recent survey by price comparison site uSwitch.com, the amount of technology pupils are expected to be lugging around in their school bags adds up to an average worth of £270 per child – more than double the estimated figure for last year.

The survey also revealed that more than a fifth of pupils will be armed with over £400-worth of gadgets, as lots of school-age youngsters these days have their own iPods and laptops too.

It's eye-watering stuff for families on a budget (which is most of us, right?), and a reminder of how times have changed. Yep, those days of multi-coloured pens being the most exciting thing in your back-to-school kit are long gone. Here are some of our other nostalgic school bag favourites that aren't getting a look-in today...

Marbles

When you've got Minecraft and Candy Crush on your mobile, who needs an actual bag of shiny coloured balls to have fun, eh?

10p for the pay phone

In an emergency, you had to have some change to call your mum, didn't you? Or reverse charges if you were in real dire straits. Well, not any more, with that £100-plus smartphone in your bag.

A copy of Smash Hits magazine

Smash Hits, along with other superb tween/teen titles like Sugar and Mizz, were true school bag treasures for many youngsters of the Eighties, Nineties and early-Noughties.



Text books are now a thing of the past for many students

These mags have sadly folded, but with an endless stream of goss/vlogs/Buzzfeed quizzes now available online, the appeal and magic of the humble magazine just isn't the same any more.

Floppy discs

The essential Nineties bit of kit for storing coursework and transporting it to school to print out – what did we ever do without them? Thanks to email, file transfer sites like WeTransfer and Dropbox, and USB sticks... RIP floppies!

Pots of ink or fountain pen cartridges

God forbid one of these burst in your bag... Remember the transition from pencil to fountain pens at primary school, once you'd learned 'joined up writing'? Yep, not needed now,

everything's typed on tablets or just scrawled in Biro.

French dictionary

Those little ones, well-thumbed with some ink spots obscuring some entries... Who needs to read an actual book when it's all on t'internet?

Text books

And speaking of actual books – text books are pretty much a thing of the past in some schools, which have replaced them with online versions.

Corned beef sandwiches

Enough said...

Sony Walkman

This one is very obvious, but with it comes

a complete lack of mix tapes – and the joy of flipping them over in your walkman to change sides, unless you had a very posh one that did it automatically, of course.

Trading cards

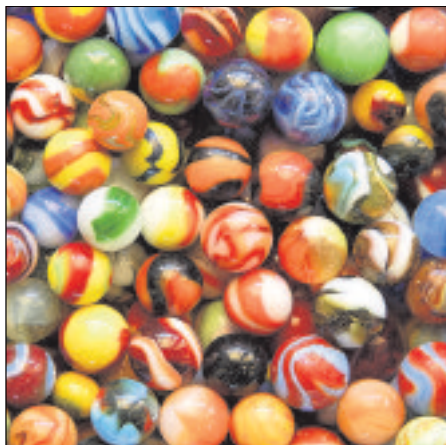
We're talking Panini football stickers and Garbage Pail Kids and PG Tips cards (I can't have been the only one to have swapped those) – do kids really do that any more?

Tamagotchi

The virtual Japanese pets were a huge thing, but you can get apps that do exactly the same thing now, so why buy a separate one?

Donkey Kong

And a host of other video games that came on devices other than smartphones and have



With games on your mobile, who needs marbles?



Floppy discs – the essential bit of kit for storing coursework

long since lost out to the aforementioned, all-pervasive Minecraft.

Tippex

For those crucial moments when you couldn't use a fountain pen eraser.

Yoyos

Everyone had one and you were hailed a hero if you could pull off the hardest tricks. Under threat from new tech in the same way as conkers though, we think.

Slap bracelets

Long strips of metallic stuff that were taut until impact with the wrist, which they'd then wrap around. We weren't entirely sure what the point of them was, but they were very colourful.

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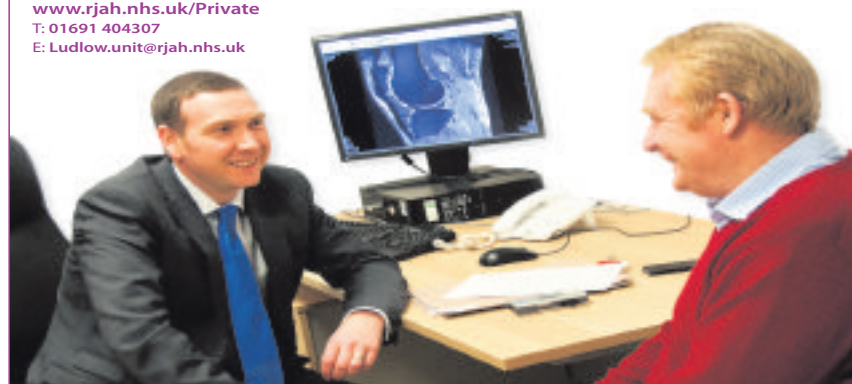
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Do you have strong financial skills and experience, perhaps in a large and complex business? Would you like to volunteer these skills?

North Shropshire College is seeking a new volunteer Governor to join its Board, and to take over as the Chair of the Finance & Resources Committee. The appointment is for two years in the first instance.

This role involves preparing for and chairing six meetings of the Finance & Resources Committee and attending six Board meetings each academic year. Meetings are usually at the Oswestry Campus from 6.00pm and last around two hours. The Chair of Finance & Resources is a key Board member and is also involved in working parties when established. In addition the post-holder liaises

as appropriate by phone or informal meetings with the Chair of Governors, the Principal & Chief Executive and the Finance Director on finance issues.

Experience of the Further Education sector is not necessary. Sound and in-depth finance experience is the paramount skill-set needed.

If this sounds like you, then please apply. Interviews will be held as soon as possible after the closing date.

Please contact Carol Thompson, Clerk to the Board of Governors, to discuss the role further and/or to request an information pack. Email carol.thompson@nsc.ac.uk or telephone **07944 297 877**. Closing date for applications is **Friday 9 October 2015**.

NSC
SHAPING FUTURES

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Shropshire **STAR**

Thriving town is hidden treasure



James McAvoy and Keira Knightley at Stokesay Court in 'Atonement'



Stokesay Court was the setting for 'Atonement'



An aerial picture of Craven Arms

BELIEVE it or not, Craven Arms is a relatively 'new' town for Shropshire, being only the small village of "Newton" on a map of 1695.

The settlement grew when the railways came during the mid to late 19th century, making it a railway town.

Newton or Newtown is still the name for the south-eastern part of the present day town, while the northern part is called Newington or

New Inn (another small village which existed prior to the town). The town takes its name from the Craven Arms Hotel, situated on the junction of the A49 and B4368 roads, which in turn is named after the Lords Craven, who owned nearby Stokesay Castle.

The civil parish of Craven Arms was formed from the merging of two older parishes - Stokesay and Halford. Small parts of the settlement overlap into neighbouring Wistanstow and Sibdon Carwood parishes.

There are three main visitor attractions in and around Craven Arms. In the town there is the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, a centre featuring exhibits about the county's geography. Stella Mitchell's Land of Lost Content Museum is a shrine to the British way of life from the Victorians through the twentieth century, all contained in three floors of the Old Market Hall.

Stokesay Castle just south of the town is the finest and best preserved 13th century forti-

fied manor house in England. It offers visitors a unique glimpse into a distant age, when strength and elegance were combined.

Lawrence of Ludlow, who made his fortune as a wool merchant and set up as a country gentleman, acquired the manor in 1281. Extensive tree-ring dating confirms that he had completed virtually the whole of the still-surviving buildings by 1291, the date of his 'licence to crenellate' from Edward I.

The dating also revealed that Stokesay's

magnificent open-hearth great hall, with its fine cruck-built timber roof, shuttered gable windows and precipitous staircase, has scarcely been altered since it was built. Across the courtyard is the gatehouse. This was built in 1640, a few years before Stokesay's only known military encounter, when it surrendered without fighting during the Civil War.

The 2007 hit British film 'Atonement', starring Keira Knightley, was filmed in part near Stokesay.

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We all love our independents

Report by David Banner

LOVE them or loathe them, there's no escaping the fact that big name retailers dominate most high streets.

Yet many towns in Shropshire have established reputations for the calibre of their independent retailers.

These are shops selling goods you might not necessarily find easily elsewhere or offering specialist knowledge.

They rely on their expertise and quality service to entice customers through their doors.

Look at Shrewsbury. Being a hot spot for tourists, Shrewsbury's visitor economy is thriving which should be good news spell lively trading for independent businesses.

But Peter Nutting, owner of Sports and Games in St John's Hill, said there were many problems for the independent retailer.

He said: "The biggest frustration I have is generally red tape. The Government insists on us doing everything online now and that can be quite tiring and time consuming."

Mr Nutting, a member of Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council, said he had some tricks up his sleeve to compete with major chain stores.

"I try to specialise," he said. "I do a lot of racket restringing which the big shops don't offer. I can put new handles on cricket bats and I tend to stock things the big shops don't stock so I tend to be in a different market."

He said there was a danger of town centres becoming identical as branded stores take over.

"I think actually the danger in Shrewsbury is we're almost trying to copy other towns when there seems to be a fashion to go into pedestrianisation and because it works in some places we seem to think that's got to be the answer in Shrewsbury and I don't believe it is," he added.

"We've got to stop following the trend, do what's right for the town and basically, as a shop keeper, I'd like the council to leave the town alone," he added.

Ludlow also has a reputation for independent food shops and boutiques. There traders have collaborated to advertise the fact, using the internet to get the word out, and fight off competition from big chains.

The "Only in Ludlow" scheme was started by the Chamber of Trade to advertise shops exclusive to the town and the scheme has its own blog, run by shopkeeper Adam Withington, of Black Bough, Market Street, which sells homeware, vintage watches and gifts.

"You have to be on top of your game," he said. "So you have a personal element or selec-



Chain stores dominate Pride Hill, Shrewsbury, but the town also has many independent shops

tion of stock, which gives your shop personality. There's a kind of character to that.

"We also rely on being in touch with our customers. We send out newsletters every two weeks to our existing customer base, with updates on new stuff coming into the shop.

An independent butchers in Market Drayton says it is currently doing well but has concerns about how national chains and supermarkets are stifling the market.

Richard Insley, manager at Shepley's butchers, said, despite competition from local supermarkets, the shop in Shropshire Street had been doing well over the last year.

Mr Insley said: "We are finding trade very busy at the moment. We can tell a customer exactly what breed a meat is and what farm it came from. That encourages confidence, and supermarkets are struggling with that."

"About 90 per cent of our product is sourced from Shropshire and I think people like that, and again this is something I don't think su-

permarkets can offer." Meanwhile, Bridgnorth is another small town where independents are flourishing.

Shoe and accessory specialists Urban Angel have been based in Bridgnorth High Street for eight years. Proprietor Cara Hickman said: "As long as the weather stays good we do enjoy a cracking trade. From May to September we tend to be really busy."

"But business rates have doubled in the last eight years."

But she added that business rates had doubled in that time and parking was also a problem.

"Parking is also a major issue but there is hardly any space. We get told we cannot park outside the shop but there's no where else to go."

"There have been many occasions when someone has run out of the shop through of getting a ticket because, again, there is no leniency."



Owner of Shepley's Butchers, Scott Shepley, with manager Richard Insley



Shrewsbury independent shop owner Peter Nutting

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↑Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

21
Oswestry & Border Chronicle
Thursday, September 17, 2015



Former school is now a stunning home

The Old School in Nesscliffe is a former school dating back to 1753 which now has spacious and flexible accommodation with original features. A real feature of the property is the bell tower and clock, both of which still currently work. The property offers potential for small business use, subject to the necessary consents, such as a B&B or shared accom-

modation, or the large schoolroom could be used as an office/small business. It has previously been used as a B&B, an art gallery and craft centre and a home office. It is for sale through Woodhead Estates at £359,950. The cosy and peaceful sitting room has double doors opening to a pretty courtyard. It also has a porch, a headmaster's entrance with curved double doors, an entrance hall, a

large old school room/dining room, a music room, a living room with patio doors, a rear hallway, WC, utility, sun room, kitchen/breakfast room, second kitchen, five bedrooms and two bathrooms on two floors, feature gardens, double garage, parking and a stable/workshop. For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 www.woodheadsalesandlettings.com



Spacious village property is an excellent family home

An excellent four bedroomed spacious family house, 8 Sycamore Close, St Martins, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £199,950. The property backs onto open countryside. It is on a corner plot. Accommodation comprises two reception rooms, a breakfast kitchen, cloakroom, four double bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite. There is a large garage, parking and private rear garden and patio. Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212 for more details.



Smallholding in beautiful area will go under hammer

A beautifully situated smallholding set in around five acres of land with far-reaching views will go under the hammer next month. Hill Farm, Hopton, Nesscliffe, which has a guide price of £320,000-£330,000, has been consigned to a collective property auction organised by Halls at the company's Battlefield headquarters in Shrewsbury on Friday, October 9. The farmhouse is surrounded by an extensive lawned garden and there are a number of useful outbuildings. Viewing is by appointment with Halls on 01743 450700.



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Bridgnorth



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On Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September, our Elm Tree Park open weekend is a perfect opportunity to discover our final phase of luxury Llanymynech homes.

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- Fine Detached Bungalow Overlooking The Village
- CH/DG
- Kitchen
- Dining Room
- Lounge
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Utility
- Good Sized Garden Plot
- Garage
- Short Distance To Village Amenities
- EPC Band - E
- JJD869

GUIDE PRICE £239,950

OSWESTRY



- Victorian Terraced House
- Walking Distance Of Town Centre
- GFCH & PVC D/G
- Kitchen
- Sitting Room
- Living Room
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Front And Rear Gardens
- EPC Band - D
- JJD885

GUIDE PRICE £100,000

GOBOWEN



- Spacious Semi-Detached House
- Walking Distance Of Train Station & Village Amenities
- CH & Double Glazing
- Living Room & Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Ample Car Parking
- Large rear Garden
- Decked Patio/BBQ Area
- EPC Band - F
- JJD840

OFFERS ON £149,950

OSWESTRY



- Victorian End Terrace House
- GFCH
- Two Reception Rooms
- Dining Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms And Loft Room
- Modern Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Walking Distance Of Town & Woodside School
- EPC Band - E
- JJD853

OFFERS OVER £124,950

CHIRK



- Modern House Ideal For FTB Or Investment
- GFCH & DG
- Lounge & Dining
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Attractive Garden
- Parking
- Open Rear Aspect
- Quiet Cul De Sac Location
- EPC Band - D
- NO CHAIN
- JJD871

£119,950

WHITTINGTON



- Four Bed. Edwardian House
- Exceptionally Well Appointed
- GFCH & UPVC DG
- Kitchen
- Three Reception
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Sewing Room
- Good Sized Garden
- Garaging & Driveway
- EPC Band - D
- JJD854

£269,950

GWERN-Y-BRENNIN



- Fully Renovated Country Property
- OFCH & D/Glazing
- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms (One En-Suite)
- Approx. Three Quarter Acre South Facing Plot
- Three Bath Stable And Store
- EPC Band - E
- JJD878

NO CHAIN. OFFERS OVER £350,000

LLANMYNECH



- Three Bed. Semi-Det. House
- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- En-Suite And Bathroom
- Parking
- Rear Garden And Patio
- Walking Distance Of Village Amenities
- EPC Band - G
- JJD862

OFFERS ON £134,500

ST. MARTINS



- Detached House Occupying Pleasant Rural Position
- Opportunity for further improvement
- GFCH
- D/G & Secondary D/G
- Sitting Room & Living Room
- Dining Kitchen
- 3 Good Sized Bedrooms
- Garaging
- Good Sized Garden
- EPC Band D
- JJD805

GUIDE PRICE £210,000

GOBOWEN



- Detached Three Bedroom Split Level House
- GFCH, D/G
- Impressive Lounge
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Garage & Car Parking
- Attractive Patio Garden
- Elevated Position Overlooking Village
- EPC Band D
- JJD781

£198,500

OSWESTRY



- Spacious Fully Modernised Nineteenth Century House
- GFCH & DG
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room/Sitting Room
- Four Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Workshop
- Ample Parking
- Timber Store Shed
- Neighbouring shops and school
- EPC Band - E
- JJD857

£214,950

CHURCH STREET, OSWESTRY



- Excellent ground floor retail shop unit
- Occupying busy trading position
- Available on a new Lease
- Overall shop frontage - 19'
- Internal Width (Max) - 16'2"
- Internal Depth (Max) - 74'
- Side Entrance
- Toilet
- Cellarage
- Two rear store rooms
- EPC Band - D
- JJD071

RENT PER ANNUM - £15,750

OSWESTRY (01691) 653437 - (01691) 680212



TOWN & COUNTRY

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LETTINGS

- Oswestry, 2 bed Retirement Apt £350pcm
- Oswestry, 3 Bed Semi Detached £600pcm
- Oswestry - 1 Bed Apartment - £475pcm
- Oswestry - 1 Bed Apartment - £475pcm
- Morda - 2 Bed Flat - £425 pcm
- Oswestry - 2 Bed Mid Terrace - £475 pcm
- Kinnerley - Four Bed Detached - £850pcm
- Fees apply for all rental properties

OSWESTRY



- NO CHAIN
- Mid Terraced Town House
- Fully Modernised
- Two Bedrooms. EPC D.
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Street Parking

Offers in the region of £99,950

TREFLACH



- Building Plot
- Good Sized Plot
- Outline Planning Permission
- Sought After Location
- NO LEVIES APPLICABLE!!
- Village Location

Offers in the region of £125,000

PONTROBERT



- End Terrace Property
- Rural Village Location
- Three Bedrooms
- Gas C. Heating / D. Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Spectacular Views
- Viewing recommended

£134,995

CHIRK



- Detached Family House
- Corner Plot Position
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D.
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Cul de Sac. EPC D.

£137,950

PANT



- WITH NO CHAIN!!
- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Well Maintained. EPC D.
- Spacious Accommodation
- Single Garage & Driveway

£139,950

LLANMYNECH



- Period Five Bedroom
- Three Reception
- Detached House
- 1.3 Acres
- Paddock
- Orchard
- The Old Barn
- The Old Farmhouse
- Planning Permission to Develop
- A MUST SEE PROPERTY!!

£620,000

CHIRK



- Semi-Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Family Bathroom
- Off-Road Parking
- Gardens

£145,000

OSWESTRY



- Spacious Detached
- Three Bedroom Bungalow
- Outskirts of Oswestry
- Ample Off-Road Parking
- Electric Heating
- uPVC Double Glazing

Offers in the region of £165,000

OSWESTRY



- Detached
- Two Bedroom Bungalow
- Garage
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Enclosed Rear Garden

£172,500

GLYN CEIRIOG



- Detached Bungalow
- Three/ Four Bedrooms
- Elevated Position
- Improvements Required
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Oil Central Heating

£175,000

HIGH STREET, WESTON RHYN



- Detached Three Bedroom
- Large Corner Plot Garden
- Three Bedrooms
- EPC Rating E.

Offers in the region of £185,000

LLANFYLLIN



- Four Bedroom Family Home
- Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms

£199,500

GOBOWEN



- Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Parking for four Vehicles
- Gas Central Heating
- Two Bathrooms
- Good Sized Garden

Offers in the region of £199,950

WESTON RHYN



- NO CHAIN!!
- Large Detached House
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Views Over Fields
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Three Reception Rooms

Offers in the region of £215,000

PANT



- Detached Bungalow
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Updated Throughout
- Garage
- Off-road Parking
- Oil Central Heating

£220,000

OSWESTRY



- Spacious Detached House
- Five bedrooms
- Recently Updated
- Popular Residential Area
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage and Parking

Offers in the region of £225,000

GLYN CEIRIOG



- Two Semi-Detached Houses
- Six Bedrooms
- Ideal Business Opportunity
- Bed and Breakfast

£265,000

WESTON RHYN



- Detached Former Farmhouse
- Four Excellent Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Gas Central Heating. EPC F

£275,000

LLANRHAEDR YM



- Detached Former Farmhouse
- Rural Village Location
- One Third Of An Acre
- Four Beds & En Suite. EPC E

£315,000

MEIFOD



- Character Country Cottage
- Three Bedrooms
- Rural Location
- Many Original Features

£350,000

CROESAUBACH



- Detached Country Cottage
- Three Reception Rooms
- Four Acres of Land
- Rural Location

£350,000

LLANDYSILLIO, LLANMYNECH



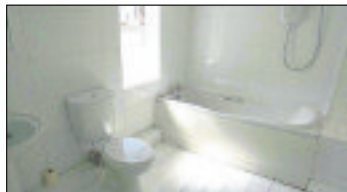
- Period Five Bedroom
- Three Reception
- Detached House
- A MUST SEE PROPERTY!!

£395,000



Extended cottage has wildlife grounds

Having been enhanced and extended over the years, Bryn Cottage at Nantmawr, Oswestry is an attractive detached property with a range of office/stores. It is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £285,000. Its accommodation includes a conservatory and a dining room. There is a living room, a sitting room/bedroom three with a door to the conservatory. There are two first floor bedrooms. The gardens have seating areas and lawns and include an organic wildlife area, which could be turned into pleasure gardens if desired. For more details contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 or visit www.morrismarshall.co.uk



House in walking distance of town centre

An attractive Victorian end terraced house, 6 Coney Green, Oswestry, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £125,000. The property is within walking distance of the town's shopping centre. There is no chain. The home benefits from gas fired central heating and PVC double glazing. Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, sitting room, living room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. There are front and rear gardens. For more details contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



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St Martins Road Gobowen £78,500

- A Semi-Detached Barn with full planning permission for a 3 bedroom dwelling
- Full planning permission was granted in 2009 by Shropshire Council and the current owner has commenced work on the roof and interior
- The barn has been fully connected to electric and water.
- There is parking to the front for several vehicles along with garden area to rear
- Further plans, Bat Licence, structural survey and documents can be viewed at our Oswestry office.



Thomas Penson Road Gobowen £179,995

- 4 Bedroom, 3 Storey Semi-Detached Townhouse with Garage
- The property has been finished to a high specification and has the benefit of a 10 Year NHBC Certificate.
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living/Dining Room, Kitchen
- 2 first Floor Bedrooms (master en-suite) and Family Bathroom
- On the second floor are a further 2 bedrooms
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating.



Park Avenue Oswestry £120,000

- A charming 2 Bedroom Terraced Property situated on one of Oswestry's most popular avenues.
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Good size lawned enclosed rear garden
- Brick paved courtyard and brick built store
- Gas central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating E.
- NO CHAIN



Ardmillan Close Oswestry £289,950

- An immaculately presented detached family home finished to a high specification
- Situated on a large plot in one of Oswestry's most desirable residential areas
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility, 4 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom.
- Fully landscaped and terraced gardens.
- Extensive patio area and parking area and single garage
- uPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating. EPC Rating D

Property Auction

24 September
2.00pm

@ the Lion Quays
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Pentre Broughton WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £55,000

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Elevated Gardens
- Pleasant Views
- EPC rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office



Bridge Street WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £35,000

- Situated in a secondary trading position within walking distance of TC
- Provides excellent scope for works of upgrading this freehold two storey inter-terraced investment
- Presently utilised as offices
- Contact Wrexham Office



Harmer Hill SHREWSBURY
Guide Price Over £50,000

- Former underground reservoir with full planning permission for conversion to holiday accom.
- Spectacular Views
- Between Shrewsbury & Ellesmere
- Contact Oswestry Office



Queens Street LLANGOLLEN
Guide Price Over £50,000

- A development opportunity comprising a single residential building plot on level ground near the centre of Llangollen.
- The plot has outline planning permission granted by Denbighshire County Council on the 6th July 2015 under Code number 03/2014/0616/PO. It is about 0.06 acres (0.02 hectares).



Coedpoeth WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £110,000

- End Terraced Property with DG
- Off Road Parking
- Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- Loft Room
- Views Over Open Countryside
- EPC Rating E
- Contact Wrexham Office



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £320,000-£340,000

- A row of four charming terraced cottages. The properties each have similar (handed) accom- living rm, hallway, bath, kit with 2 beds.
- Communal garden and allocated parking. An excellent investment opportunity. Contact Wrexham Office.



Acrefair LLANGOLLEN
Guide Price Over £75,000

- Detached Residence.
- Two Bedrooms
- Scope For Refurbishment
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- D/Glazing & Gas C/H
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- Contact Wrexham Office



St Martins Nr OSWESTRY
Guide Price £110,000-£130,000

- A mixed commercial and residential investment property consistently achieving a high rental yield
- Well maintained commercial premises
- Located in the centre of St Martins
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- Ideal investment opportunity
- Contact Ellesmere Office



West Felton OSWESTRY
Guide Price Over £300,000

- 37 acres (14.97 ha) of arable land.
- Split into two parcels - 9 acres & 28 acres.
- Road frontage and wide access gateways.
- Contact Ellesmere office for more information



Ruabon WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £70,000

- A 4 bed, CH, Grade II Listed house
- Central village location
- The accommodation is laid out on 3 floors with dining rm, living rm and kit to the ground floor, landing and 2 double beds, bath to the first floor with a further 2 double bedrooms on the second floor
- Ideal investment property.



Cefn Mawr WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £50,000

- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Living Room, Kitchen
- Rear Entrance Hall, Bathroom
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Gas Fired CH, Small Yard to the rear
- Majority uPVC Double Glazing
- EPC Rating D



St Martins Nr OSWESTRY
Guide Price Ove £5000

- 0.31 acres (0.13 ha) of accommodation land.
- Land laid to pasture
- Ideal for agricultural or equine recreational opportunities.
- Frontage on to council maintained lane
- Contact Ellesmere Office



Nr Town Centre WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £60,000

- Excellent investment opportunity for refurbishment and letting or modernisation and occupation by the first time buyer.
- Modern central heating
- Rear yard/original out-offices with raised garden / parking / garage



Glyn Ceiriog Nr LLANGOLLEN
Guide Price £130,000-£150,000

- Detached 3 Bedroom Family Home
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Modern detached bungalow is in excellent condition

A modern detached bungalow in an excellent condition, 24 Maes-y-Dderwen, Llanfyllin comes with attractive landscaped gardens. It is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £210,000. The property has an entrance hall, a lounge and patio doors to a conservatory. There is also a kitchen/breakfast room, a master bedroom en-suite and two further bedrooms, and a bathroom. The conservatory has patio doors off the lounge, laminate floor, two fitted electric panel heaters and a door to the rear gardens. For further information contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 or visit www.morrismarshall.co.uk



Luxury executive home is superbly designed

A luxury executive home, 3 Troad Y Cynriau in Penybontfawr has been designed to an exacting standard. Located in the heart of the Tanat Valley, it is for sale through Halls at £449,000. Accommodation includes entrance hall, reception hall, kitchen, utility room, dining room, home office, lounge, garden room, master suite with a dressing room and en-suite, a bathroom, bedroom two en-suite and three further bedrooms. Outside a five-bar gate opens to a parking area for four cars and there is a garage and front, side and rear gardens. For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsgb.com



Spacious four bed home has been fully modernised

Unicorn Cottage, Middleton Road, Oswestry, is a spacious four bedroomed full modernised 19th century house with workshop and good sized garden. It is for sale for £214,950 through JJ Dell and Co and there is no chain. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing. The accommodation comprises a rear porch, breakfast kitchen, dining room/sitting room, four bedrooms and bathroom. For more details on the property contact JJ Dell and Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Mid terrace home is an ideal first time buy

A three bedroom mid terrace property, 31 Blackfriars, Oswestry, has no chain and is an ideal first time buy or investment property. It is for sale through Town & Country for £117,500. The property has recently been redecorated and carpeted throughout. Accommodation at the property briefly comprises hallway, cloakroom, lounge and kitchen/diner. Upstairs there are three bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property benefits from gas central heating and uPVC throughout. For more details contact Town & Country on 01691 679631.





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Lot 1



Garage/Workshop, Llanidloes
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Lot 2



1 Orchard Villas, Caersws
GUIDE PRICE: £120,000

Deceptively Spacious Village Property. Located in popular village with good amenities. Inspection recommended to appreciate the accommodation. EPC Rating = 56

Lot 3



The Workshop, Fairbourne
GUIDE: £35,000 - £40,000

Situated near Fairbourne 7 miles from Dolgellau, this complex of Workshops, Potacabin/Office and other storage units has been used for many years as a builder's yard. This useful plot offers parking and has an extensive area of woodland to the east of the buildings.

Lot 4



Bryn y Mor, Rhoslefain
GUIDE: £160,000 - £170,000

Situated in an elevated position with stunning coastal and inland views. A rare opportunity to acquire a coastal detached two bedroom bungalow in a quiet rural location. EPC Rating = 22

Lot 5



Clevelands, Gobowen
GUIDE PRICE: £85,000

Mid terraced character house. Three reception rooms and kitchen. Four bedrooms and bathroom. Enclosed private rear garden. Central village location. Requiring modernisation works. EPC Rating = 26 (F)

Llanidloes Office 01686 412567

Newtown Office 01686 626160

Tywyn |Office 01654 710388

Tywyn |Office 01654 710388

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

Lot 6



Blaen y Cwm, CefnMawr
GUIDE PRICE: £40,000

A Rural Detached Cottage requiring complete modernisation. Offering great potential to extend/ refurbish or rebuild all subject to planning. Distance to Council highway 400 metres. Situated in grounds of approx 1.41 acres (0.57 hectares) which are overgrown. Market town of Newtown approximately 2 miles. Situated in the heart of Mid Wales

Lot 7



417 Llys Dulas, Trehafren
GUIDE PRICE: £80,000

Modern 3 Storey Town House in cul-de-sac setting. Spacious accommodation, convenient to town & amenities. Gas fired central heating. Double glazed. Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Dining Room, Kitchen, Lounge, 5 Bedrooms, Bathroom. EPC Rating = 65

Lot 8



Land at Pool Quay, Welshpool
GUIDE PRICE: £30,000

Roadside Accommodation/Amenity Land. Extending to 4.26 Acres (or thereabouts). Vehicular access via Rhydesgyn Lane. Adjoins the Wern Brook. Useful Pony Paddock.

Lot 9



1 Tan y Foel, Eglwysfach
GUIDE: £75,000 - £85,000

Mid Terrace Cottage. In need of modernisation and refurbishment. Centrally positioned location. Close to Ynysir Bird Reserve. 3 Bedrooms. Large terraced rear garden. Off road parking. Energy Efficiency Rating = 20.

Lot 10



Plas y Coed, Aberdyfi. LL35 ONA
GUIDE PRICE: £650,000

Handsome Detached Victorian house. 3 Receptions, 8 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. The property stands in 2.28 acres. With private, mature gardens. Great potential to restore to former glory. Integral garage and workshop. South facing with views over the Dyfi Estuary. EPC Rating = 15

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£225,000

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Welshpool Office 01938 554818



114 Gungrog Hill, Welshpool
£177,500

Modern Detached House. Sitting & Dining Rooms, Kitchen, Utility. Main Bedroom with En-suite. Three further Bedrooms, Bathroom. Gas Fired Heating. Double Glazed. Single Garage with ample driveway. Front garden. Terraced rear garden/patio. Views across the Severn Valley. NO CHAIN. Energy efficiency rating = 68

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



139 College Road, Oswestry
£129,950

Three bedroom semi detached house. Lounge, kitchen/diner, Cloaks. Master en-suite shower, family bathroom. Gas-fired central heating and double glazing. Fully enclosed rear garden. Single garage and ample on-site parking. Close to excellent local amenities. EPC Rating = 73 (C). NO CHAIN

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



Land at Maes Castell, Castle Caereinion. O.I.R.O
£400,000

Extending to 1.8 Acres (or thereabouts). Within the village settlement boundary. Main services available. Usual village amenities.

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

13 Victoria Road, Oswestry

£179,995

Mid terrace character town house. Three reception rooms and kitchen. Four bedrooms and bathroom. Partial double glazing, electric storage heaters. Private enclosed rear garden. Brick walled forecourt approach. Many original features remain. Scope for modernisation. EPC Rating = 29 (F)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



Tredarwen House, Llandrinio

£438,000

Spacious and Detached Country Property. Extending to 1.25 Acres (or thereabouts). Two Receptions, Conservatory. Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Shower. Main Bedroom with En-suite Bathroom. Three Further Bedrooms, Bathroom. Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed. Garage/Workshop/Store. Traditional Barn. Two Pony Paddocks.

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



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Llanidloes 01686 412567
Machynlleth 01654 702472

Newtown 01686 626160
Oswestry 01691 679595
Shrewsbury 01743 247755

Tywyn 01654 710388
Welshpool 01938 554818
Aberdyfi (window display)



Well appointed accommodation

A large detached Edwardian family village house, Sunnyside on Station Road in Whittington offers exceptionally well appointed accommodation throughout. The property is on the market with JJ Dell & Co for £269,950. Accommodation includes an entrance hall, cloakroom, three reception rooms and a breakfast/kitchen. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a large family bathroom. The property also has a sewing room. The property is set back from the road and is approached over a concreted drive providing ample car parking and access to garaging. It has a neat and well maintained front lawned garden with flower borders with pathway and access gate to good sized rear garden being well maintained. For more details contact JJ Dell and Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.



Traditional large farmhouse

Ty Mawr at Llansantffraid is a traditional Welsh longhouse with generous and adaptable accommodation. It is on the market for £435,000 through Halls. The accommodation has a large farmhouse kitchen, back kitchen, shower room, study/reception room, main dining hall with two staircases off, inner lobby to WC and separate living room. On the first floor there is a master bedroom with en-suite bathroom and walk-in wardrobes, as well as four further bedrooms and two bath/shower rooms. The gardens and grounds surround the property and benefit from the wonderful views. They are mainly laid to lawns with assorted plants and shrubs interspersed. The property also has a detached carport. Prospective purchasers please note that there is the possibility of acquiring some pasture land adjoining the property and this will be available by separate negotiation. Ty Mawr offers prospective purchasers a substantial detached family home in a fantastic location and the agents recommend an inspection. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.





Whittington Castle provided an impressive and appropriate backdrop for the launch of Theatre Severn's panto Dick Whittington



The cast of Snow White – the 2015 panto for Oakengates Theatre at the Place

Get in panto spirit!

MORE than 38,000 people will flock to this year's Shrewsbury pantomime, organisers have said.

The cast of Theatre Severn's upcoming production of Dick Whittington was unveiled at a launch event at Whittington Castle, near Oswestry.

Peter Jack, theatre manager, said he was "delighted" to welcome back Evolution Productions for its fifth pantomime at the theatre and promised panto-goers they were in for a treat.

Telford-born Paul Hendy, who has written this

Advertisement feature

year's pantomime, said Dick Whittington has the right ingredients for a family fun show.

He said: "It's so traditional, you've got your goodie, your baddie, your leading man and fairy. It's the panto for panto purists."

"It's going to be fantastic," he said.

Dick Whittington opens on December 2 and will run until January 10.

Meanwhile, budding dancers are being given the chance to star in a panto alongside TV stars this Christmas.

The dancers, who will star in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, will get the chance to appear alongside Hollyoaks and Holby City actor Jeremy Edwards and Nicole Faraday from ITV's Bad Girls.

This year's pantomime will run between December 8 and January 3 at Oakengates Theatre in Telford.

The auditions will be held at the theatre on September 20 and are open to all dancers, who are local to Oakengates Theatre and who are able to commit to all rehearsals and performances.



Ben Thornton, Brad Fitt and Eric Smith launch Dick Whittington at Whittington Castle

I

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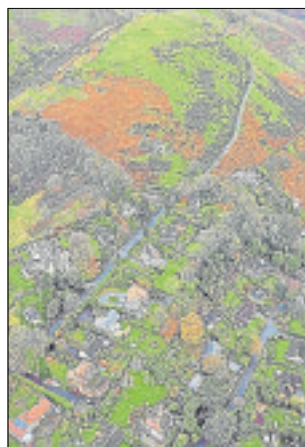
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The Burway and Cardingmill Valley



One of Church Stretton's busiest streets is bustling Sandford Avenue

THE settlements of Little Stretton, Church Stretton and All Stretton (until the late 19th century all separate townships) formed the manor of Stretton or Stretton-en-le-Dale.

The Domesday Book of 1086 recorded 35 households and a mill in the manor.

Church Stretton became the largest of the settlements, with the manor's parish church and market located there, and being where Bristol Road had a junction

with the road to Much Wenlock and the Burway – a route over the Long Mynd.

At the time of the Domesday Book, the manor came under the hundred of Culvestan, a Saxon hundred that was amalgamated during the reign of Henry I. The Strettons then came within the upper division of the hundred of Munslow.

The town was first granted a market charter by King John in 1214, for a weekly market on Wednesdays, but by 1253 the market day had changed to Tuesdays.

In 1337 a new charter was granted by Edward III and it authorised a weekly market to be held on Thursdays. The market is still held every Thursday, in the square on the High Street, which has been the town's market place since the 13th century.

Much of the town was destroyed by fire in 1593 and many of the present half timbered buildings in the town centre date from the time of the rebuilding.

The High Street was for many centu-

ries known as the Bristol Road, being the road from Shrewsbury to Bristol. It was once a much wider thoroughfare, with the churchyard of St Laurence bordering directly on to the street.

Conservation

Over time buildings were erected along the street, in a similar fashion to other English market towns such as in Ludlow.

The High Street is effectively only the eastern side of the original Bristol Road.

It was made more open when the old market hall was demolished to form the present town square.

Most of the town centre and a large part of the west of the town (including the entrance to Carding Mill Valley) is covered by the Church Stretton Conservation Area.

The Conservation Area contains all of the town's Listed buildings and smaller structures, approximately 40 in total.

St Laurence's Church is Grade I listed.

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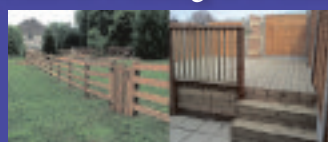
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Business is now booming as new shops open doors



Trade in Oswestry is picking up, with very few vacant retail units left to fill

BUSINESS leaders have hailed the strength of Shropshire's high streets with fewer vacant shops across the region.

Representatives of business in Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Wem, Ellesmere, and Market Drayton, have all reported only a handful of empty shops on the high street.

In Shrewsbury's town centre figures from the Business Improvement District show that the vacancy rate is currently between nine and ten per cent – with the regional benchmark for comparable towns being 10 to 14.9 per cent, according to retail analysts Spring-board.

Kevin Lockwood, the manager of Shrewsbury's Darwin, Pride Hill, and Riverside shopping centres, who is also vice-chair of Shrewsbury Business Chamber, said the town is looking strong.

He said: "Having visited a number of up and down the country over the past few months we are nowhere near in as bad a situation as others."

"Shrewsbury is holding up very well. "There seems to be quite a take-up in Shrewsbury and we are known for our independent retailers, when shops become vacant it is not long before they are taken up again."

Chris Jones, centre director at Telford Shopping Centre, added: "The shopping centre is trading really well and we currently have a low vacancy level."

"As is normal in a centre of over one million sq ft, there are a few vacant units, but we are in advanced discussions with retailers with a view to getting these stores trading in time for Christmas."

Mark Whittle, the chairman of Market Drayton Chamber of Trade and Commerce, said empty shops in the town were quickly occupied.

He said: "We have got a fair few new shops that have opened up. "We are keeping our heads above water by one shop opening soon after one closes."



Kevin Lockwood, manager at the Darwin Centre, Pride Hill, Shrewsbury

Report by Dominic Robertson

Lincoln McMullan, member of Ellesmere Chamber of Trade and Commerce, said the town has only got one empty shop.

He said: "It is great to see the town thriving and we are always looking to move forward."

Councillor John Murray, mayor of Wem, said the town seems to have a bright future. He said: "We haven't got a lot of empty shops at the moment."

"It's nice to see new shops get up and running."

Hilary Seward, chairman of Whitchurch Chamber of Trade and Commerce, added: "We are doing well and we have not many empty shops at all. We have been very proactive and we have encouraged landlords to do work to their shops and have also given shops grants to decorate their shop fronts."

Oswestry mayor, Councillor Peter Cherrington said he was also pleased that empty shops had been taken up in the town. He said: "Business is booming in Oswestry and the town is looking good."

"Cross Street, which for so long really let the town down, is looking good at the moment."

Russell Griffin, a spokesman for Telford & Wrekin Council said all the units its owns are fully let.



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Natural wonder caught on camera in county town



THIS year may not have given us a summer to remember, but at least its mix of sunshine and showers has produced natural spectacles, especially in the glorious landscapes of Shropshire.

One such spectacle was captured by Jon Morris in North Shropshire. Mr Morris managed to capture an incredible image of a rainbow while he was out

and about with his family in Shropshire. He said: "On the way back from Oswestry with my boys we spotted the rainbow and had a game of chasing it to see what really lies at the end of it."

"By the time we got to Ellesmere it had grown into a complete rainbow, so we had to stop and take a pic."

"The best bit was we agreed that the rainbow was likely over our home and the real pot of gold was our family."

North Shropshire is of course famous

for its meres. The Mere at Ellesmere is the largest and most spectacular of the nine glacial meres around the 'North Shropshire Lake District'.

It is situated on the edge of the town itself and is a legacy of the last Ice Age, when large blocks of ice were left behind by the diminishing glaciers.

They were buried by mounds of debris and in time the ice melted leaving hollows which became lakes filled with water.

Today the lakes attract thousands of vis-

itors each year seeking fishing or boating. There is excellent coarse fishing on the Mere and also at the surrounding Blake-mere, Whitmere, Newton Mere and Crose-mere.

The Mere is surrounded by circular walks, woodlands and gardens and is a nature lovers paradise. Modern technology now allows the herons on the Mere to be viewed nesting and feeding their young from the beginning of March to the end of May.

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Hanging baskets still in full bloom in Newport town centre thanks to the efforts of green-fingered volunteers



Flowers frame this view of Newport's Indoor Market

Town still blooming

NEWPORT keeps blooming – thanks to the efforts of its green-fingered team of volunteers.

It may feel like autumn but it still looks a lot like summer along the high street in Newport.

Dozens of businesses have shown their support for the Newport Heart of England in Bloom team by signing up for its hanging baskets scheme this year.

The group is behind many of the floral displays which bring cheer to residents and greet visitors

Special report

to the town. Funds are raised through a series of events throughout the year, including the popular Through the Garden Gate event.

This year's event attracted over 250 visitors and raised £2,000 towards the group's floral displays for the town next year.

Ten beautiful town and countryside gardens and Meadowview Road allotments opened to the public – some for the first time – all offering something different.

Lunch and afternoon tea were also avail-

able. The delicious homemade cakes proved to be a real success and were a big hit with visitors.

All the money raised will be used to keep the town blooming for the next 12 months.

Newport HOEIB chairman Daphne Rogers said they were delighted with the fantastic amount raised.

She added: "All monies raised will be put towards the costs of planting in 2016. I hope everyone would agree that the high street planters and baskets this year are absolutely stunning."



Businesses around the town support the basket scheme each year
Pictures supplied by Dave Gittus

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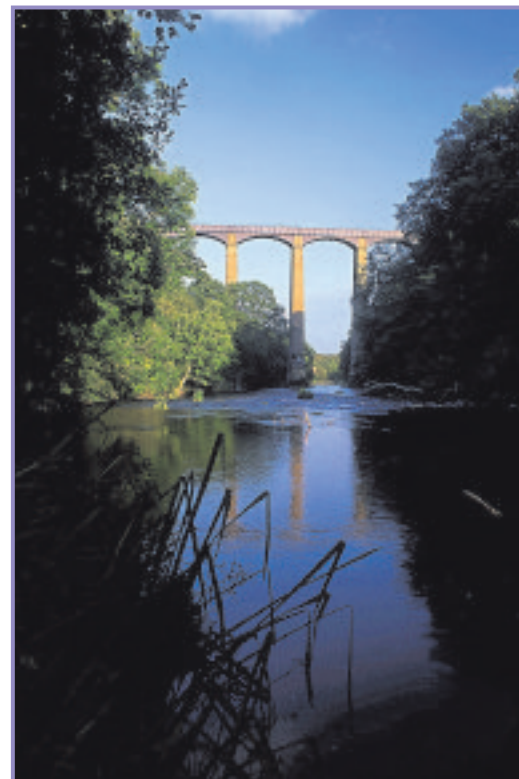
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Stokesay Castle is packed with history



Whittington Castle and its picturesque moat draws in many visitors every year



The awe-inspiring Pontcysyllte Aqueduct



The Iron Bridge at Ironbridge is an internationally recognised symbol of the Industrial Revolution

Great places full of history

SHROPSHIRE truly is a great place to live, with a wide range of historic attractions to enjoy.

The county has many country houses and estates and one of the best known is Attingham Park near Shrewsbury complete with its own deer park.

If it is landmarks you are looking for, particularly those with a bit of history, then you have a wide selection to choose from in Shropshire.

Whittington Castle near Oswestry is a property full of history and the historic building is surrounded by a beautiful moat.

Just across the North Shropshire border in Wales sits the famous Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

The impressive industrial monument is one of the area's biggest tourist attractions and many families enjoy a stroll over the structure.

Shropshire has plenty of industrial heritage as well as history to enjoy.

Ironbridge played a key role in the growth of industry in Britain and there are plenty of museums to enjoy in the area.

Stokesay Castle near Ludlow is a fortified manor house, built in the 13th century.

Ludlow Castle is one of the region's most

Out and About in Shropshire

recognisable landmarks. The castle is a ruined medieval fortification standing on a promontory overlooking the River Teme.

The castle was probably founded by Walter de Lacy after the Norman conquest and was one of the first stone castles to be built in England.

During the civil war of the 12th century the castle changed hands several times between the de Lacy's and rival claimants, and was further fortified with a Great Tower and a large outer bailey.

Roger Mortimer acquired the castle in 1301, further extending the internal complex of buildings, and the Mortimer family went on to hold Ludlow for over a century.

Richard, the Duke of York, inherited the castle in 1425, and it became an important symbol of Yorkist authority during the Wars of the Roses.

Another castle in the region worth a visit is Chirk Castle near Oswestry. Just across the border in Wales, the castle is full of history and it played a key role in the battle for supremacy in the borders region. In recent years it has even staged world rally car events.



Historic Chirk Castle near Oswestry attracts visitors of all ages



Attingham Park Estate near Shrewsbury



Ludlow Castle played an important role in the history of the region

Ambulanceboss pays tribute to service's staff





Pointless Celebrities
6.50pm
Alexander Armstrong quizzes another line-up of famous faces. The teams are singer-turned-author Louise Wener and wildlife presenter Kate Humble, veteran Olympian Mary Peters and ice dance star Jayne Torvill, comedian Tony Hawks and broadcaster Henry Kelly and comedy duo Hale and Pace.



Flog It! Trade Secrets
4.30pm
Paul Martin and the show's experts offer advice on making money from antiques and collectibles. Our host and team also discuss various fashions and tastes in the antiques world, and Elizabeth Talbot visits the home of one of the oldest forms of decoration in the UK.



Keep It in the Family
7pm
Bradley Walsh hosts the game show in which families from Leeds and Manchester go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds. Heidi Range, Kimberly Wyatt, Brian McFadden, Rebecca Ferguson, Michelle Heaton and Louis Walsh are the celebrities holding clues to the prizes on offer.



Channel 4 Racing
1.30pm
Nick Luck presents live coverage of eight races. From Ayr, races start at 2.00, 2.35, 3.10 and 3.45. From Newbury, at 1.45, 2.15, 2.50 and 3.25. With commentary and analysis by Richard Hoiles, Graham Cunningham, Mick Fitzgerald and Tanya Stevenson, and reports from Rishi Persad.



Football League Tonight
9pm
Kelly Cates and George Riley present action from the Football League, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Brighton & Hove Albion, Nottingham Forest v Middlesbrough and Rotherham United v Cardiff City in the Championship and Swindon Town v Burton Albion in League One.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. Host James Martin is joined by top chefs Sat Bains and George Calombaris, pop star Kelis faces her food heaven or food hell, and Susy Atkins appraises the best wines.
11.30 Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. Terry Wogan and Mason McQueen continue their culinary journey in Scarborough, where they visit a fish and chip cafe with a glamorous history and attend a tea-dance. (R)
12.00 BBC News; Weather.
12.10 Football Focus. Dan Walker looks ahead to the weekend's Premier League fixtures and presents reports on the lunchtime kick-off between London rivals Chelsea and Arsenal.
12.50 Saturday Sportsday. A look ahead at the day's events.
1.00 Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Australia. Sue Barker presents coverage of the second day of the World Group semi-final contest at the Emirates Arena in Glasgow, featuring the doubles rubber.
4.30 Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League, Football League and Scotland.
5.10 Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix – Qualifying Highlights. Suzi Perry presents action from the battle for pole in the Singapore Grand Prix at the Marina Bay Street Circuit, where the 13th round of the season takes place.
6.35 BBC News.
6.45 Midlands Today; Weather.
6.50 Pointless Celebrities. Famous faces Louise Wener, Kate Humble, Mary Peters, Jayne Torvill, Tony Hawks, Henry Kelly and Hale and Pace try to find the most obscure answers in the general knowledge quiz.
7.40 Doctor Who. New series. Peter Capaldi returns as the Doctor for more time-travelling exploits. An alien force freezes the Earth's skies – leading to an encounter with a familiar enemy.
8.30 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton hosts the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the National Lottery draws with a performance by Jack Savoretti.
9.20 Casualty. On her first day, new junior doctor Alicia treats a vulnerable pregnant woman and realises her relationship is not what it seems. Meanwhile, Dylan makes an effort with Lofy.
10.10 BBC News; Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Chelsea v Arsenal at Stamford Bridge and Manchester City v West Ham United at the Etihad Stadium; **National Lottery Update.**
11.55 FILM: Rogue (2007). A party of tourists taking a boat trip in an uncharted part of the Australian Outback is attacked by a ferocious crocodile. Thriller, starring Radha Mitchell and Michael Vartan.
1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.

BBC2

- 6.10 FILM: Anne of Green Gables (1934).** Drama, starring Anne Shirley.
7.25 FILM: Sharpy's Fabulous Adventure (2011). Comedy, starring Ashley Tisdale.
8.55 FILM: The Last Flight of Noah's Ark (1980). Disney adventure, starring Elliott Gould.
10.30 Animal Park. (R)
11.00 More Creatures Great and Small. (R)
11.30 More Creatures Great and Small. (R)
12.00 Great British Menu. (R)
12.30 Great British Menu. (R)
1.00 FILM: That's Entertainment Part Two (1976). Compilation of MGM highlights, starring Judy Garland.
3.00 Triathlon. The ITU World Series women's race from Chicago.
4.30 Flog It! Trade Secrets. (R)
5.00 World's Busiest Railway 2015. (R)
6.00 The Haiky Bikers' Northern Exposure. (R)
7.00 Gardeners' World. Joe Swift visits a tropical paradise in Runcorn and Monty Don works on Longmeadow as autumn unfolds in the garden. (R)
7.30 Galapagos – Islands of Change: Natural World. David Attenborough narrates a documentary that looks at the impact increased migration and tourism has had on the Pacific archipelago's wildlife. (R)
8.30 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring organises a dance in an attempt to boost platoon morale, but Pike interrupts proceedings to make an important announcement regarding his girlfriend Violet. (R)
9.00 6 Degrees of Separation. Panel game show, presented by Professor Brian Cox, with Ben Miller and Hugh Dennis leading two teams competing to find the scientific connections between six unlikely objects. (R)
9.30 Mock the Week. Ed Byrne, Sara Pascoe, Ed Gamble and Nathan Caton join Dara O Briain, Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons for the topical comedy show. (R)
10.00 Cradle to Grave. The world is changing for Spud as the docks face closure, while Danny buys an incredible new machine off a schoolmate that allows him to watch TV programmes more than once. (R)
10.30 Boy Meets Girl. The sight of provocative photographs at the art gallery prompts Leo to ask Judy a few personal questions, while Peggy and Jackie pop in to the hair salon to see Pam. (R)
11.00 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. Jo Brand presents the companion show to BBC1's baking contest, featuring an interview with the week's eliminated baker, and assessing who excelled in Victorian Week. (R)
11.30 Live Triathlon. Coverage of the men's race in the 10th and final round of the ITU World Series campaign from Chicago, America.
1.50 FILM: The Hunter (2010). Thriller, directed by and starring Rafi Pitts.
3.15 This Is BBC2.
5.55 The Instant Gardener. (R)

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.30 Pat & Stan 6.40 Dino Dan 7.05 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.10 Scooby 7.25 Super 4 7.40 Adventure Time 8.00 Marvel Avengers Assemble 8.30 Fish Hooks 8.45 Horrid Henry 9.00 Jessie**
9.25 ITV News.
9.30 Murder, She Wrote. Jessica and sheriff Amos Tupper investigate a case of poisoning at Cabot Cove's newest tourist attraction, the Joshua Peabody Inn. Whodunit, starring Angela Lansbury and Tom Bosley. (R)
10.30 The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs host the next stage of the talent show, as would-be contestants sing in front of the judges and an arena audience to win a place at Boot Camp. (R)
11.30 Rugby World Cup. Tonga v Georgia (Kick-off 12.00pm). Pool C gets under way with this clash at Kingsholm, Gloucester, as the nations meet in a World Cup tournament for the first time.
1.55 Rugby World Cup. Ireland v Canada (Kick-off 2.30pm). Coverage of the Pool D fixture at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, as both nations get their campaigns under way.
4.30 Rugby World Cup. South Africa v Japan (Kick-off 4.45pm). Pool B gets under way with this encounter at the Brighton Community Stadium, as the nations meet for the first time in their history.
6.45 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.55 ITV News and Weather.
7.00 Keep It in the Family. Bradley Walsh hosts the family game show, which also elects performances by Britain's Got Talent stars Jack Pack and living cartoon artist Ennio Marchetto. Last in the series.
8.00 The X Factor. Olly Murs and Caroline Flack present as the arena audition stage concludes, with more hopeful contenders seeking to win over the panel and secure a place at Boot Camp. Continues on ITV tomorrow at 7pm.
9.30 Through the Keyhole. Keith Lemon hosts a revival of the classic game show in which panellists Bruno Tonioli, Davina McCall and Dave Berry are challenged to identify the homes of the rich and famous.
10.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.45 FILM: Invictus (2009). Premiere. Newly elected President Mandela seeks to use the 1995 Rugby World Cup to unite a divided South Africa. Clint Eastwood's factual drama, with Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon.
1.20 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00 Show Me the Telly. Quiz show, hosted by Richard Bacon. Stars of the small screen pit their wits against members of the public in a game of TV trivia. (R)
3.50 ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

Channel 4

- 6.10 How I Met Your Mother.** Barney gets Ted drunk. (R)
6.35 Great Scottish Swim 2015. Action from Loch Lomond.
7.30 Para Tri. Action from Dorney Lake in Windsor.
8.00 The Morning Line. Nick Luck presents from Ayr.
9.00 Frasier. Niles becomes an art critic. (R)
9.30 Frasier. Martin plans his own funeral. (R)
10.00 The Big Bang Theory. Raj tries to date Lucy and Emily at the same time. (R)
10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
10.55 Come Dine with Me. Hotel events manager Jo-Anne hosts the first party in Norwich. (R)
11.25 Come Dine with Me. Multimedia manager Karena hosts the second night in Norwich. (R)
11.55 Come Dine with Me. Former professional skier Jake hosts the third dinner party in Norwich. (R)
12.30 Come Dine with Me. Music shop manager Barnaby hosts the fourth party in Norwich. (R)
1.00 Come Dine with Me. The final dinner party in Norwich. (R)
1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ayr and Newbury.
4.10 Channel 4 News.
4.30 Couples Come Dine with Me. Three couples from Edinburgh compete to win the £1,000 prize. (R)
5.20 Couples Come Dine with Me. Three couples from Merseyside compete for the £1,000 prize. (R)
6.05 Location, Location, Location. Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer help two sets of first-time buyers search for properties in Bristol and the nearby countryside of the Cotswolds. (R)
7.00 Grand Designs. Boat enthusiast James Strangeways invites Kevin McCloud to follow progress on his ship-themed home, which was designed to stand on stilts over a marsh by his architect nephew. (R)
8.00 Secrets of the Terracotta Warriors – Secret History. Recent discoveries about China's Terracotta Army, an extraordinary collection of ceramic sculptures unearthed in 1974 and dating back more than 2,000 years. (R)
9.00 It Was Alright in the 1960s. Matt Lucas narrates another look back at TV shows from past decades, revisiting the changing social attitudes reflected on the small screen in the 1960s.
10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)
11.05 FILM: Battle: Los Angeles (2011). A platoon of soldiers is sent into battle against an alien invasion force that has landed on America's west coast. Sci-fi thriller, starring Aaron Eckhart and Ramon Rodriguez.
1.20 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R)
2.15 Hollyoaks. (R)
4.25 Location, Location, Location. (R)
5.20 Fifteen to One. (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!:** Peppa Pig **6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.35 Pip Ahoy! 6.45 Ticky To 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.10 Roobara and Custard 7.15 Make Way for Noddy 7.30 Paw Patrol 7.40 Little Princess 7.55 Wanda and the Alien 8.10 Zack and Quack 8.25 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.45 Jelly Jamm 9.00 LazyTown 9.25 Dora and Friends**
9.55 SpongeBob SquarePants. Double bill. Squidward cleans up the city.
10.30 Cowboy Builders. A prolific rogue trader first investigated by the programme in 2011. (R)
11.25 Cowboy Builders. Revisiting a family the programme helped in 2012. (R)
12.25 Cowboy Builders. Dominic Littlewood revisits a Twickenham woman he helped in 2009. (R)
1.20 FILM: Columbo Goes to College (1991). Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.
3.15 FILM: Asteroid: Final Impact (2015). Premiere. Disaster thriller, starring Mark Lutz.
5.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. Disputes in which mistrustful neighbours resorted to subterfuge. Last in the series. (R)
6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Enforcement agents are faced with the difficult job of evicting a woman with two children – a task that takes a turn for the worse when her ex-partner makes an appearance. (R)
6.55 FILM: Left Behind (2014). Premiere. An airline pilot struggles to save the passengers on his flight when people start disappearing across the world. Fantasy adventure, starring Nicolas Cage and Lea Thompson.
8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present action from the Championship, League One and League Two, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Brighton & Hove Albion.
10.30 Celebrity Big Brother: The End is Nigh. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
11.30 FILM: Date Movie (2006). An unloved and overweight woman contends with a jealous rival and disapproving parents to get the man of her dreams. Spoof romantic comedy, with Alyson Hannigan and Adam Campbell.
12.55 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 Celebrity Big Brother: The End is Nigh. The ups and downs of BB life. (R)
4.00 Transporter: The Series. Frank races to save his own life.
4.50 Make It Big. The charity evening gets under way. (R)
5.15 Make It Big. Young entrepreneurs set up shop in Nottingham. (R)
5.45 Angels of Jarm. Angel Ellie helps Wendy to practise for school sports day. (R)
5.50 Angels of Jarm. (R)

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Antiques Roadshow
8pm
Fiona Bruce presents an episode from RAF Coningsby, an operational air base in Lincolnshire, where she takes to the sky in a Dakota aircraft and examines some air force memorabilia including a teddy bear that was on board one of the Dambuster planes and designs for the Vulcan bomber.



The Best of Top Gear
8pm
Jeremy Clarkson, James May and Richard Hammond look back at highlights of season 22 of the motoring series. Including an attempt at cattle herding in GT cars on a three million acre ranch in Australia and Gillian Anderson's lap of the mildly moist test track in a Reasonably Priced Car.



Rugby World Cup
1.55pm
Wales v Uruguay (Kick-off 2.30pm). Pool A continues with this fixture at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, where Wales will expect to record a comfortable victory against the South Americans. Uruguay are playing in only their third World Cup and their first since 2003.



Underworld: Rise of the Lycans
11.40pm
Bold and charismatic werewolf slave Lucian incites his species to rebel against the vampires who enslaved them. Together with his secret lover - the daughter of vampire king Viktor - Lucian raises an army worthy of taking on their bloodsucking oppressors.



Planet of the Apes
11.30pm
An astronaut crash-lands on a strange planet and is captured and enslaved by the ruling race of highly intelligent apes. Luckily, he is helped by a sympathetic chimpanzee - but then discovers a shocking secret. Remake of the 1960s sci-fi adventure, directed by Tim Burton and starring Mark Wahlberg.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
7.35	Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Chelsea v Arsenal at Stamford Bridge and Manchester City v West Ham United at the Etihad Stadium. (R)
9.00	The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00	Sunday Morning Live. Sian Williams presents topical debate covering religious, moral and ethical issues, with guest panellists and contributions from viewers.
11.00	Bargain Hunt. Kate Bliss and Charles Hanson help two teams search for bargains at Ardingly Antiques Fair in West Sussex, while Tim Wonnacott finds the oldest item at the event. (R)
11.45	Battle of Britain 75: From Westminster Abbey. Kirsty Young introduces coverage of a service of thanksgiving and rededication to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.
1.30	Sunday Politics. The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
2.35	Escape to the Country. Searching for a property in north Wales. (R)
3.05	The Great British Bake Off. The remaining bakers face a brand new challenge this week, as Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry ask them to prepare pies, cakes and desserts from the Victorian era. (R)
4.05	Points of View. Viewers' comments.
4.20	Tribute to a Queen – The Big Sing. A musical tribute from the Royal Albert Hall, as Her Majesty the Queen becomes Britain's longest reigning monarch. With special guests Lesley Garrett and Alexander Armstrong.
5.00	Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix – Highlights. Suzi Perry presents action from the Marina Bay Street Circuit, where the 13th round of the season took place. Commentary by Ben Edwards and David Coulthard.
6.35	BBC News.
6.50	Midlands Today; Weather.
7.00	Countryfile. Adam Henson is in the Lake District, discovering how getting out and about in the country is good for mind and body, and presenting archive items on the joy of the great outdoors. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
8.00	Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents an episode from RAF Coningsby, an operational air base in Lincolnshire, where she takes to the sky in a Dakota aircraft and examines some air force memorabilia.
9.00	The Go-Between. Adaptation of LP Hartley's novel, a story of forbidden desire and betrayal, as seen through the eyes of an impressionable boy at the start of the 20th century. Jim Broadbent stars.
10.30	BBC News.
10.50	Midlands Today; Weather.
11.00	Eat Well for Less? Gregg Wallace and Chris Bavin help the Austens from West Sussex, who are devoted to expensive brands and tend to stockpile food. (R)
12.00	Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.05	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.40	Countryfile. John Craven visits the oldest Women's Institute group in Britain. (R)
7.40	Gardeners' World. Joe Swift visits a tropical paradise in Runcorn. (R)
8.10	The Beechgrove Garden. The team assesses how the michaelmas daisies have fared over summer.
8.40	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. Highlights of the series.
10.10	Great British Menu. Eve Townson, Matt Worswick and Mark Ellis face the main course stage. (R)
10.40	Great British Menu. The North West chefs prepare their desserts. (R)
11.10	Great British Menu. The two remaining North West chefs cook their entire menus again. (R)
11.40	Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. Terry Wogan and Mason McQueen's tour stops off in Chester. (R) Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.15	MOTD2 Extra. Mark Chapman discusses yesterday's Premier League fixtures.
1.00	Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Australia.
4.45	Triathlon. The ITU World Series men's race from Chicago.
5.45	Battle of Britain 75: Highlights from Westminster Abbey. Service of thanksgiving to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.
7.00	World's Wildest Events. Chris Packham explores bizarre stories from across the globe, from a man who gets drunk without touching a drop of alcohol to chart-topping molecular music. (R)
8.00	The Best of Top Gear. The team looks back at highlights of season 22 of the motoring series, including cattle herding in GT cars in Australia and Gillian Anderson's lap in a Reasonably Priced Car.
9.00	Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week. The 13 contestants undertake Australian SAS training, and get a taste of going behind enemy lines in an exercise where they have to transport supplies through hostile territory.
10.00	Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Southampton v Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace and Liverpool v Norwich City.
11.10	Family Guy. Stewie impregnates himself with Brian's DNA to save their friendship, while Peter and the guys try to make a viral video.
11.30	Family Guy. The Griffins receive a letter from the Nielsen Company telling them that they have been selected to have their television viewing habits monitored.
11.55	FILM: Down Terrace (2009). Father-and-son gangsters are released from prison and try to identify the informant in their organisation. Crime comedy, starring real-life father and son Robin and Robert Hill.
1.25	Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)
2.20	Sign Zone: Holby City. (R)
3.20	This Is BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITY: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.30 Pat & Stan 6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 7.05 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.10 Sooty 7.25 Super 4 7.40 Matt Hatter Chronicles 8.00 Marvel Avengers Assemble 8.30 Fish Hooks 8.45 Horrid Henry 9.00 Horrible Science
9.25	The Unforgettable Sid James. Profile of the Carry On star. (R)
10.00	The X Factor. Olly Murs and Caroline Flack present as the arena audition stage concludes, with more hopeful contenders seeking to win over the panel and secure a place at Boot Camp. (R)
11.30	Rugby World Cup. Samoa v USA (Kick-off 12.00pm). Coverage of the first of the day's three matches comes from the Brighton Community Stadium, as the Pool B sides get their campaigns under way.
1.55	Rugby World Cup. Wales v Uruguay (Kick-off 2.30pm). Pool A continues with this fixture at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, where Wales will expect to record a comfortable victory.
4.30	Rugby World Cup. New Zealand v Argentina (Kick-off 4.45pm). The opening round of fixtures reaches a conclusion with this Pool C match at Wembley Stadium.
6.45	ITV News Central; Weather.
6.55	ITV News and Weather.
7.00	The X Factor. The successful contestants from the arena auditions stage enter the boot-camp stage, with the judges putting them through their paces at a grand country house.
9.00	Downton Abbey. New series. Mary's past catches up with her as secrets and rifts threaten the unity of the family, while those below stairs find social changes are putting their futures at risk.
10.30	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.45	Rugby World Cup Highlights. Action from the third day's matches, which were Wales v Uruguay, Samoa v USA and New Zealand v Argentina.
11.50	River Monsters. Jeremy Wade returns to Australia's deadly Fitzroy River to investigate one of the world's rarest fish, the glyphis shark – a species so mysterious that little is known about it. (R)
12.20	Murder, She Wrote. Jessica is alarmed to learn a friend's son has been arrested for murdering the local bully in a close-knit community, and sets out to get him off the hook. (R)
1.20	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	Motorsport UK. Highlights from Knockhill, featuring the Porsche Carrera Cup and Ginetta GT4 Supercup. Commentary by Richard John Neil.
3.50	ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.
5.05	The Jeremy Kyle Show. The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues.

Channel 4	
6.15	How I Met Your Mother. Ted searches for the best New Year's Eve party in New York. (R)
6.40	How I Met Your Mother. Ted tries to get Robin invited to a wedding. (R)
7.05	British GT Championship. The final round from Donington Park.
7.35	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ray makes a shocking discovery. (R)
8.00	Everybody Loves Raymond. Marie spurns Ray. (R)
8.30	Frasier. Niles suspects Frasier of coveting his date. (R)
9.00	Frasier. The Crane brothers believe they may be descended from Russian royalty. (R)
9.30	Sunday Brunch. With guests Shane Filan, Samantha Womack, Nicola Millbank and Rudimental.
12.30	The Big Bang Theory. One of Sheldon's favourite TV shows is cancelled. (R)
1.00	The Big Bang Theory. Leonard and Sheldon hire a former TV host to entertain them. (R)
1.30	FILM: 10 Things I Hate About You (1999). Comedy, starring Heath Ledger and Julia Stiles.
3.25	FILM: St Trinian's (2007). Comedy, starring Rupert Everett.
5.30	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. A former firefighter and his partner look for a new home on Spain's Costa Blanca.
6.30	Channel 4 News.
7.00	The Crossrail Discovery: London's Lost Graveyard. Documentary revealing how Crossrail engineers uncovered a burial site on Liverpool Street in London, providing an insight into what life in the capital was like 300 years ago. (R)
8.00	Time Crashers. The celebrities find themselves working in a Victorian fishery in 1885, where they have one day to fulfil a huge order destined for London's Billingsgate Market.
9.00	This Is England '90. Lol, Woody and Milky revel in domestic bliss during the summer of 1990, while the rest of the gang embark on a journey they will never forget. Drama, starring Joe Gilgun.
10.00	Big Fat Quiz of the 90s. Jonathan Ross, Jo Brand, Sue Perkins, Lee Mack, Bob Mortimer and Richard Ayoade demonstrate how much they remember about the 1990s. Jimmy Carr asks the questions. (R)
11.40	FILM: Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009). A werewolf leads a revolution against the vampire king who has enslaved his race, starting a centuries-long war. Fantasy horror prequel, starring Michael Sheen and Bill Nighy.
1.15	Come Dine with Me. (R)
1.45	Come Dine with Me. (R)
2.15	Come Dine with Me. (R)
2.40	Come Dine with Me. (R)
3.10	Come Dine with Me. (R)
3.40	Location, Location, Location. Phil Spencer helps a couple keen to purchase their first home. (R)
4.35	You Deserve This House.
5.30	1001 Things You Should Know. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake! Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.35 Pip Ahoy! 6.45 Ticky Toc 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.10 Roobarb and Custard Too 7.15 Make Way for Noddy 7.30 Paw Patrol 7.40 Little Princess 7.55 Wanda and the Alien 8.05 Zack and Quack 8.15 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.30 Jelly Jam 8.45 LazyTown 9.15 Dora and Friends
9.45	SpongeBob SquarePants. Double bill. Patrick and SpongeBob have to share a toy.
10.20	Football League Tonight. Highlights and all the goals from the Championship, League One and League Two. (R)
11.50	Ultimate Police Interceptors. A routine drugs raid brings officers face to face with an armed suspect. (R)
12.45	Ultimate Police Interceptors. An armed assailant leads officers on a dramatic chase. (R)
1.40	Ultimate Police Interceptors. Jon Peacock uncovers an unexploded bomb. (R)
2.40	FILM: Independence Daysaster (2013). Premiere. Sci-fi thriller, starring Ryan Merriman.
4.20	FILM: The Time Machine (2002). Sci-fi adventure, starring Guy Pearce.
6.10	5 News Weekend.
6.15	FILM: 2012 (2009). As the human race faces extinction in a global cataclysm, a writer tries to get his family to the last safe refuge. Disaster movie, starring John Cusack and Chiwetel Ejiofor. Edited for language.
9.00	Celebrity Big Brother: End of the World. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
10.00	30 Greatest Disaster Movies. A countdown of the most memorable disaster movies of the past 50 years, including Airport and Independence Day, with celebrities and fans talking about their favourite moments.
11.30	FILM: Planet of the Apes (2001). An astronaut crash-lands on a strange planet ruled by intelligent apes, who capture and enslave him. Tim Burton's sci-fi remake, starring Mark Wahlberg and Helena Bonham Carter.
1.40	SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10	Police Interceptors. Cameras follow a high-speed police interception unit in Durham and Cleveland, including Jack Hamilton dealing with a roadside dispute that has spiralled out of control. (R)
4.00	House Doctor. Selling a two-bedroom flat in Hammersmith. (R)
4.25	Make It Big. The office furniture gets broken. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. Concern arises over one of the office fish. (R)
5.15	Make It Big. The group searches for a venue. (R)
5.45	Angels of Jarm. Angel Ellie helps a boy take a pretend holiday. (R)

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Cinema listings

THE VISIT (15)



Scary old people – 5/10
Rebecca and her younger brother Tyler prepare to spend a week with the grandparents they have never met. Initially, the children are charmed and have the run of the homestead, except for one area. The old folks retire to bed and the children are told to remain in their room. When they hear strange sounds they venture into the darkness to investigate...

DOPE (15)



The real deal – 8/10
Teenage dreamer Malcolm Adekanbi loves 90s hip hop. After being invited to a party a local dope dealer stashes some MDMA in Malcolm's backpack. Despite all their efforts to steer clear of trouble, Malcolm and his friends concede they must become dealers to offload the MDMA. Dope is smartly written and hugely entertaining.

NO ESCAPE (15)



Foreign troubles – 6/10
Businessman Jack Dwyer uproots his family to take up a job in far-flung climes. But when the assassination of the country's president sparks an uprising Jack sprints back to the hotel where his family are staying as locals begin beheading foreigners in the street. Staff stand by as international guests are slaughtered in their rooms. The odds are stacked against the Dwyers.

ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL (12A)



No mush – 8/10
At the behest of his parents Greg Gaines visits estranged childhood friend Rachel Kushner who has been diagnosed with leukaemia. A faltering friendship takes root, to the delight of Rachel's boozey mother. In order to impress his high school crush, Madison, Greg agrees to make a film for Rachel with his partner in creative crime, Earl.

Scorching follow-up

Review by Damon Smith

RELEASED in October last year, The Maze Runner – the first film based on James Dashner's post-apocalyptic trilogy for young adults – was unfairly dismissed as a testosterone-fuelled clone of The Hunger Games.

Wes Ball's propulsive and refreshingly unsentimental chase through a diabolical labyrinth killed off main characters in a clinical fashion and cleverly negated the need for back stories by burdening the teenage runners with amnesia.

Fragmented memories of the past gradually resurface in this equally entertaining sequel, which veers into grisly territory inhabited by The Walking Dead and World War Z, albeit within the boundaries of a 12A certificate.

Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials fills in some of the narrative blanks but always has one eye on the next thrilling action set piece, including a sprint through a topsy-turvy collapsed skyscraper that proves what goes up must come down... at stomach-lurching speed.

The first chapter culminated with Thomas (Dylan O'Brien), Newt (Thomas Brodie-Sangster), Teresa (Kaya Scodelario), Minho (Ki Hong Lee), Frypan (Dexter Darden) and Winston (Alexander Flores) being airlifted to safety from a facility belonging to the World Catastrophe Killzone Department (W.C.K.D.).

The teenagers arrive at a fortified research compound where Janson (Aiden



Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials follows last year's opening slavo in the trilogy which is due to culminate in January 2017

Gillen) and his team care for the runners, keeping them safe from W.C.K.D. and its Machiavellian lead physician, Ava Paige (Patricia Clarkson).

Thomas learns that the maze runners hold the key to a cure for the Flare contagion, which has ravaged the globe and reduced humanity to flesh-hungry predators known as Cranks.

"There's something in our blood that

W.C.K.D. wants," Thomas informs his pals.

When Janson fails to provide the answers that Thomas needs to hear, he spearheads a daring escape with a loner called Aris (Jacob Lofland).

The teenagers flee into the sun-scorched wilderness where they come face-to-face with the Cranks and forge an uneasy alliance with a gung-ho girl called Brenda (Rosa Salazar) and her surrogate father

(Giancarlo Esposito). Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials unfolds at a brisk pace and fleshes out Scodelario's battle-scarred heroine, who was woefully short-changed in the first film.

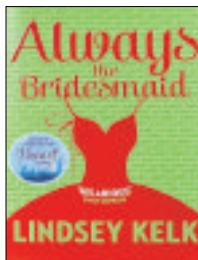
O'Brien remains a likeable hero, who is blissfully unaware of the sins of his past, and new characters are introduced and – in some cases – swiftly dispatched as the hard fought war with W.C.K.D. intensifies.

Book reviews

ALWAYS THE BRIDESMAID

By Lindsey Kelk
Published by Harper
Fiction paperback

Maddie Fraser is 31 and has been asked to be a bridesmaid by Lauren, one of her best friends. She's not sure that she particularly wants to be the bridesmaid again. Lauren has asked Maddie to help her organise the wedding but because she is a professional event planner that means that she will be doing all the hard work. This is against a backdrop of working for a boss she hates and who takes advantage of her and the fact that her ex-boyfriend is now also in a new and obviously



happy relationship. Times are hard for Maddie but as this book is a Lindsey Kelk creation, it is full of mad moments, very funny incidents and a whole lot of love.

By Deborah Knox

AELNOTH

By M J Hands

This is the final book in the Wild Edric trilogy by Shropshire author Mike Hands and contains plenty of historical detail, set in the turbulent era after the Battle of Hastings when the triumphant Normans were busy overthrowing local lords, barons, and landholders in order to impose their own regime.

Wild Edric's son, Aelnoth, witnessed the death of his brother and the loss of his father's house and land, and we follow his exploits as he tries to overthrow the Norman invaders, only to suffer a crushing defeat in battle at Exmoor, and



subsequent adventures abroad which take him all over Europe and as far as Constantinople.

Alas, for all the author's effort and enthusiasm, he did not carry this reader with him.

By Sally Bunn

THE STRANGE TALE OF THE SNAKE RING

By John Holroyd
Published by Matador
Books

Gerda's parents died when she was little and she has been brought up by a kindly couple who keep a farm. They intend to pass the farm to their son, hoping that he and Gerda will marry one day. However, her heart belongs to Thomas, a boy from the next village. When asking permission to marry Gerda he is told that he must go away to seek his fortune so he can support her and buy her a house. Thomas sets off to the Shining Kingdom where he finds work in the king's



kitchen. After a long time, and having been made a knight, Thomas asks the king's permission to return home to his sweetheart. A beautifully written magical tale for children.

By Sally Bunn

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Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Ray Parlour, in action for Arsenal, will be the speaker at an Oswestry charity lunch



Bridget Marsden and Leif Ottoson will perform at the Cross Keys pub, Selattyn

Star Parlour will be talking about game

FOLLOWERS of the beautiful game are in for a treat next month when they will be entertained by a colourful former England international player at a charity lunch.

Ex-Arsenal midfielder Ray Parlour will be the guest speaker at the event at a hotel near Oswestry.

The former soccer star will be speaking at the Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy anniversary dinner.

The football competition was founded in memory of Graham Edwards, a promising 21-year-old footballer from Gobowen who played for Gobowen and Weston Rhyn.

Graham died from leukaemia in 1974 and the tournament was set up the following year with the impressive trophy paid for with £100 raised at a dance.

It is now one of the longest running charity tournaments in the country, with a sign of its longevity being that the sons and even grandsons of players who played in the first tournament have competed in recent years.

All money raised from the tournament goes to Leukaemia Research.

This year's tournament was won by St Martins. In the under 13s junior tournament, held for the second time, Oswestry Boys and Girls Club beat Gobowen. The New Saints' Adrian Cieslewicz presented the trophy to the winners.

After the matches a cheque for £11,500 was handed over to Leukaemia Research bringing the total raised over the years to £130,000.

The tournament's fundraising will continue when Ray Parlour attends the competition's annual lunch. This year the event will take place on October 11 at the Lion Quays Hotel and Spa at Gledrid near Oswestry.

The event starts at 12.30pm and people are invited to enjoy a two-course Sunday lunch and listen to Parlour's tales of his footballing career.

Comedian Mick Martin will also be entertaining guests.

Tickets costs £30 each and tables of 10 are available for £300. Call 07828 000192

SPECIAL REPORT

By Sue Austin

or 07854 742729. The event is sponsored by Stans Superstore of St Martins.

If it is farm fields rather than football fields that grab your interest, look out for the next series of One Man and His Dog.

For the popular television series has been filmed near Chirk Castle.

The first round of this year's competition will feature Aled Owen, from Corwen, near Llangollen, and will be screened on the evening of September 27 on BBC1.

Among the Welsh competitors was Medwyn Evans, of Llanfachreth, near Dolgellau, who is one of two shepherds working on the Nanau Estate which has more than 2,200 ewes and lambs.

Rising star Rhion Owen, 13, of Penysarn, Anglesey, competed for Wales in the junior competition and says he really enjoyed taking part in One Man and His Dog.

Meanwhile, music fans will be entertained on September 26 at the Cross Keys in Selattyn near Oswestry by musicians Bridget Marsden and Leif Ottosson.

The pair play traditional Scandinavian and original music on fiddle and accordion. They will open their 2015 UK tour at the Cross Keys pub.

As a young English fiddler Bridget was so struck with Swedish traditional music that she moved to Stockholm to study folk music at the Royal College of Music where she graduated in 2010.

Bridget can also be heard in the critically acclaimed group Stormsteg, who won Best Newcomer at the Swedish Folk & World Music Awards 2012. Leif is one of Sweden's finest young accordionists and has won several prestigious awards. He challenges the conventional way of using the accordion as well as being a brilliant instrumentalist with great artistic breadth.

Tickets cost £5 (£5 child) from The Gates gift shop, Church Street, Oswestry, or from (01691) 791403 or (01948) 710218 or borderlinemusic@btinternet.com.



Rhion Owen and Medwyn Evans took part in the filming of One Man and His Dog

Brewers cheer news of Katherine's Eisteddfod performance

MUSIC loving brewers are launching a new real ale called Songbird in honour of Welsh singing sensation Katherine Jenkins.

The special recipe has been produced in celebration of the news that the world famous singer will headline the opening night of the 2016 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

The new ale will be unveiled by Llangollen Brewery at the Hamper Llangollen Food Festival in the autumn.

Head brewer Ynyr Jeffreys-Evans, 30, said the new brew is "blonde and hoppy", but also boasts a fun, sophisticated character, just like bubbly, beautiful mezzo-soprano Katherine, who is currently expecting her first baby.

He said: "We went for a light, refreshing, medium amber colour, with slight citrus notes in the flavour.

"It is very much in our traditional style, very hoppy.

"We're thrilled to be unveiling it at Hamper Llangollen 2015, as we so much enjoy exhibiting there.

"It is the first time we have named a beer after a contemporary personality and who better than Katherine?"



"She has a huge following in her homeland of Wales and is recognised all around the world.

"It's not too heavy and it's very refreshing, great for people who like a nice pint in the afternoon.

"We'd also love it if Katherine would come and visit us and maybe try a pint herself, when she's in Llangollen for next year's Eisteddfod."

Katherine announced earlier this year that she and husband, artist, Andrew Levitas, are expecting a little girl later this year.

The singer has said she will be taking some time off after the baby is born.

The performer said she expects to be back on stage in 2016 when she will return to Llangollen Eisteddfod for the first time since 2010.

Before that she will sing at the Queen's official 90th birthday celebrations in May.

Tickets are already selling fast for Katherine's Eisteddfod concert version of Georges Bizet's much-loved opera Carmen, the tale of a naive soldier seduced by a fiery gypsy woman.

It will be the first time that Katherine will publicly deliver all Carmen's operatic arias in one performance. Hamper Llangollen 2015 will be held over the weekend of October 17 and 18.

The food festival will be staged in the Royal International Pavilion in Llangollen.

● **Photo** - Colin Loughlin from Hamper Llangollen Food Festival and Ynyr Jeffreys-Evans from Llangollen Brewery raise a glass to the new Songbird real ale

BLACKPOOL IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Blackpool is quite simply the most famous and archetypal of British seaside resorts, boasting a huge range of tourist attractions including the famous Tower. Packed full of enjoyment whatever the weather, with its famous trams, the Golden Mile and pleasure beach.

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Your itinerary

Sunday 15th: We head to Blackpool via Southport. After time for lunch we continue our journey to Blackpool and check-in at the Hilton Hotel. This evening following dinner you will be entertained by **Philomena Begley** and **Aidan Quinn** plus the **Barry Doyle Duo** the evening also includes **Shaun Loughrey** and his band between them they be playing some of the best Country and Irish music until around 11.30pm. The above acts are as known at the time of the printing of this brochure and maybe subject to change without prior notice.

Monday 16th: Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and maybe a stroll along the promenade or alternatively visit one of the many attractions. We return home early afternoon.

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Mystery and rumour over men who fell from the sky



Max Wenner



Alfred Loewenstein

THEY were men who fell from the sky in mysterious incidents just a few years apart and which have ever since been the subject of rumour, speculation, and intrigue.

On January 4, 1937, Shropshire squire Max Wenner, owner of the shooting rights on the Long Mynd, plunged to his death from an early airliner in which he was a passenger.

An inquiry at the time concluded that it was an accident and that he had simply opened the wrong door when going to the toilet at the rear.

But now Bill Kerswell, who lives near Church Street and who has long been fascinated with the case, has uncovered a remarkable similarity with another mysterious death less than nine years previously.

On July 4, 1928, Belgian tycoon Alfred Loewenstein was travelling on an aircraft over the English Channel and went to use the washroom at the back of the plane – and never reappeared.

His secretary who went to investigate found the plane's entrance door was flapping in the slipstream.

News of Loewenstein's death led to panic selling by investors in his business enterprises. His body was later discovered near Boulogne.

Murder

There have since been many theories about what had happened, ranging from simple absent-mindedness on his part in opening the wrong door, to murder.

The affair was the subject of a book called *The Man Who Fell From The Sky*.

Bill said: "It's a coincidence that both were Jewish multi-millionaires and died in those circumstances. It was certainly not suicide as they had everything to live for. Wenner was returning from meeting his fiancée, a woman half his age in Austria.

"I would think there's a connection. I think one murder was a copycat of the other nine years later. I've been trying to find out if Loewenstein knew Max Wenner. He probably would have, as they were international businessmen travelling back and forth to Germany."

Another dimension to the death of Wenner, who lived at Batchcott Hall, near Leebotwood, is that Bill says he was a friend of the Nazi ambassador to Britain, Joachim von Ribbentrop, who is said to have visited him in Shropshire, although no positive proof has emerged.

Batchcott Hall is these days a holiday house and its website says: "Swastika-embossed pennings were found throughout the house during its renovation in 2006, some of which appear in the library of Batchcott Hall, together with press cuttings and estate agent's particulars of the sale of the hall following his death. There is also the suitcase with which Max Wenner was believed to have boarded the aircraft for his last flight in 1937, kept by a nearby farmer and returned to the current owner in 2011."

As a regular traveller to Germany and Austria, it would not be surprising for Wenner, a fluent German speaker who was born in Cheshire but brought up in Vienna, to have had German currency. His wife Dolly had died six months before his own unexplained death.

Some of the lurid rumours surrounding Wenner were addressed by his nephew Michael A. Wenner, a retired British diplomat living in Houston, Texas.

He said that while wealthy, he was neither a millionaire nor Jewish, and he questioned whether there can ever have been a meeting with Ribbentrop, as nothing was ever mentioned in the family.

As for rumours that he might have been a Nazi spy, he pointed out that as he had been in the British Army in the Great War, serving from early on in the 20th Royal Fusiliers, and later transferring to the Royal Flying Corps, he had excellent credentials as a patriot.



The blitzed home on Church Street in which victim Elizabeth Hand lived



Bridgnorth's bomb site – the gap in the houses is now a garden of remembrance

Bomb victim's relative recalls night of tragedy

THE scars of that dreadful night in Bridgnorth of 75 years ago remain in the town to this day.

But the number of folk who lived through it and can still tell the tale is fading with the march of time.

On August 29, 1940, a German bomber which was presumably following the River Severn to navigate in the darkness unleashed a string of bombs across Bridgnorth as townsfolk slept.

There were two fatalities – Mrs Elizabeth Hand, aged 68, of 9 Church Street, and Miss Mary Josephine Maynard, 62, of Cliff Cottages.

Mrs Hand's blitzed home was never rebuilt, leaving a gap in the street which became a memorial garden, a role this bomb site still plays today.

The tragedy has caught the interest of historian and author John Davies, who has suggested that there should be a plaque or some other marker of remembrance in the town to the victims. Our previous story about those events and his idea has prompted a lady to come forward who has a very personal insight into the tragedy.

Shock

She is Mrs Hazel Gould, the granddaughter of Mrs Hand, who was killed that night.

"I married and left Bridgnorth nearly 50 years ago," said Mrs Gould, who now lives near Hereford.

"My grandmother was the person killed in Church Street and my grandfather was injured. An aunt also lived in the house with them at the time and she survived except for severe shock.

"At the time of the bombing another married aunt had been living near Cambridge where she and her family had constant raids and constant warnings because of the RAF bases nearby.

"My grandparents decided to invite her, together with my young cousin, to have a short holiday and break with them in the safety of Bridgnorth. They had only been staying in the house with my grandparents for two days when the house in Church Street was bombed. They also survived, suffering only from shock.

"At this time my own parents shared a cellar which was used as an air raid shelter. People slept as best they could, and I can vividly remember waking up and being very frightened when I saw three 'ghosts' standing on the cellar steps.

"They were my two aunts and my cousin who had white flannel nightdresses which were by then covered with ash, as were their faces and hair – they were grey all over.

"My father had been on ARP (Air Raid Precautions) duty and had helped to dig his mother out of the bombed building and to rescue his father, his sister, and niece.

"My father was Edward – Ted – Hand, who had businesses in Bridgnorth and was mayor in the late 1950s.

"My grandfather was in hospital for some time and died a few years later after never

MEMORY LANE

By Toby Neal

fully recovering. He was looked after by my aunt and they eventually lived in a house on the Castle Walk, which the Apley estate kindly rented to them, after first living with my parents, and later for a short time in a cottage in East Castle Street.

"My other aunt and cousin returned home to Cambridge where the family lived for many years – peacefully and quietly!

"My grandfather was Frederick Hand, and my grandmother Elizabeth. I remember being quite scared of her as she wore a turban, rather like Queen Mary, was very deaf, and had an ear trumpet, which always seemed huge to me.

"My grandfather was the foreman at Ley's, the building firm in Underhill Street where Ley's Yard is now. He was involved in building the old green and white cricket pavilion in Bridgnorth.

"At the time the bomb was dropped my aunt, Gertrude Hand, lived with her parents in Church Street and her married sister Elsie Newitt and her young daughter Alene were visiting.

"I occasionally come to Bridgnorth, but sadly have no pictures of the house in Church Street, either before or after the bombing. The photograph in your paper was the first time I had ever seen the damage done, although I vividly remember seeing the damage in the Squirrel Bank and Whitburn Street area.

"If I ever find any photos of family members involved in the bombing I will forward them to you."

Mrs Gould added: "In the early 1950s my father drove a friend down to Heathrow to catch a plane back to South Africa. The flight was delayed because of fog, and to fill in time they decided to have a coffee.

"The airport was busy and within a few minutes a Canadian asked if he could join them. He was in transit from Canada to South Africa and just passing through the airport and also delayed by the fog.

"During conversation the usual questions were asked – where do you come from and where are you going?

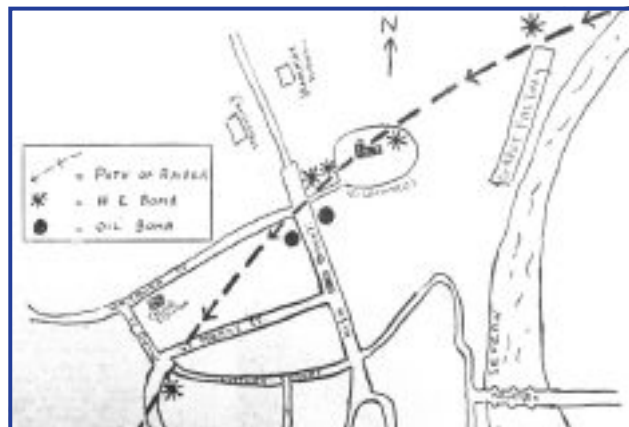
"When it came to my father's turn to reply he said he came from a town in Shropshire which he was sure the Canadian would not know about.

"You will understand his surprise when the Canadian replied, 'Oh yes, I know Bridgnorth – I was staying at a large house called Bella Vista near St Leonards' Church which was used for Canadian soldiers to convalesce. One night some bombs were dropped on the town and those who were fit enough were rudely awakened and asked to help. I was sent to Church Street to help to rescue people in a house there; a woman had been killed."

"My father and this stranger had worked side by side the night of the Bridgnorth bombs. It was quite a coincidence as the Canadian had previously not been back to UK since the night of the bombing."



An unidentified property that received damage during the Bridgnorth raid



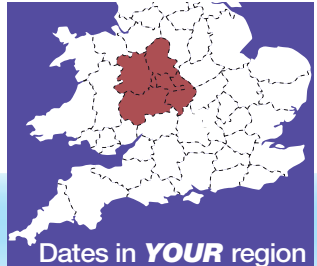
A map published ten years after the bombing shows where the bombs fell

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Women seeking men

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DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional
fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call
me, you have nothing to lose. Tel No: 0906
500 3724 Box No: 419075 ☺

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks
man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime
fun. Tel No: 0906 515 4292 Box No: 418117 ☺

JULES, sensitive tactile, curvy brunette,
hopeless romantic, seeks tall, loving male for
fun, friendship and possible LTR. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 419033 ☺

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for
no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs.
Pls call, ACA Tel No: 0906 515 4299 Box
No: 418167 ☺

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall
slim and attractive, looking for fun times,
maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418845 ☺

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings
discreet meetings with male any age or
location. Tel No: 0906 515 4295 Box
No: 36601 ☺

HEATHER, well travelled solvent brunette
looking to share a large glass of wine and
whatever follows with affectionate man friend.
Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419031 ☺

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs
seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel:
0906 515 4275 Box No: 405297 ☺

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy di-
vorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back,
sincere male for an uncomplicated, loving re-
lationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418995 ☺

POLLY, 36yrs, cuddly, curvy with fantastic
personality, works from home so has time on
her hands. Text only to Mailbox No:
4068850 ☺

LADY young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man
42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only
to Mailbox No: 4881572 ☺

KERRY Ann, 39yrs hairdresser, loves to run
her fingers through hair! Chaps 30+, pls text,
no young lads pls. Text only to Mailbox No:
415057 ☺

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall
slim and attractive, looking for fun times,
maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418845 ☺

LOOKING for the right chemistry with country
loving gent who like me is looking for some
extra fun in their life. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 418843 ☺

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum,
young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar
man for companionship. Age/looks/Status
unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418795 ☺

SOPHIA very sensual black lady looking to
acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun
thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status
unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
413999 ☺

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing,
friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good
wine, good conversation, flirting and fun
times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418609 ☺

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, widow, 50's,
likes walks, sight seeing, theatre, meals out,
seeks genuine, professional gent, 5ft 9ins
plus to make life more enjoyable. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 418615 ☺

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing,
friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good
wine, good conversation, flirting and fun
times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418609 ☺

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long
blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel,
wining/dining, WLTm genuine male for mu-
tual companionship. Looks unimportant. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418587 ☺

JACKIE lonely and looking for male com-
pany, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection?
Then I'm your girl, call me. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 418169 ☺

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BROKEN hearted lady 39 seeks loving male
to mend heart age 39/40. Text only to Mail-
box No: 4869116 ☺

KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties,
seeks similar young at heart, fun male for fun
times. Age/Status/looks unimportant. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 418577 ☺

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows
just what she wants, looking for caring male
for spontaneous fun relationship. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 418445 ☺

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking
to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who
thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 418369 ☺

JO 55, curvy redhead, loves eating out, the
atre, travel, looking for middle-aged prince
charming to sweep me off my feet. Text only
to Mailbox No: 4464905 ☺

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age
58-60, for friendship and to have a laugh with.
So if that's you would love to hear from you.
Text only to Mailbox No: 4537136 ☺

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights
out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and
more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418277 ☺

65YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere,
N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks,
West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box
No: 414773 ☺

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking
to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who
thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 418369 ☺

EILEEN, slim green eyed brunette likes
meals out and cosy nights in, seeks tall male
who would make her laugh and brighten up
her day. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418347 ☺

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, lov-
ing and honest, male interests, seeks gen-
uine male to share lonely evenings with. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417211 ☺

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth,
nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a
lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417195 ☺

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, car-
ing, considerate, seeks male for friendship,
possible romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 410847 ☺

CAROL 49, attractive, green eyed blonde,
honest, warm hearted, n/s with GSOH likes
cinema, music, walking, meals out and travel
seeking similar male. Text only to Mailbox
No: 4283683 ☺

FEMALE, 50, short blond hair, blue eyes, 5ft
10, slim build, looking for a man 50-55 with
salt and pepper hair and GSOH. Text only to
Mailbox No: 4435776 ☺

HEATHER, 34, single very attractive
brunette, sensual and interesting, looking to
add to life's experiences and adventures with
professional male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 418193 ☺

JAN, 47, once bitten twice shy! Looking for
non complicated fun times. Attractive, di-
creet, OHAC, you won't be disappointed. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418089 ☺

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills
and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't
be disappointed. Any age with own accom-
modation. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
409109 ☺

EMMA, 43, easygoing female looking to
broaden her horizons, WLTm similar male for
romantic liaisons. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 417419 ☺

SHARON, 48, tall slim attractive, live alone
with no ties, love romanticising and WLTm
man for good times together, maybe more.
Any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417751 ☺

SINGLE mom, 40yrs, small, not skinny
WLTm single dad aged 39 to 45. Text only
to Mailbox No: 4255299 ☺

FEMALE, 36, looking for a genuine guy to
wine and dine me with lots of laughter and fun
times. Text only to Mailbox No: 4758012 ☺

JULIE, attractive early 40's brunette, size 10,
varied interests, WLTm male for fun times,
good conversations, spoiling and maybe
more. status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 418007 ☺

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair,
brown eyes, generous curves, would love to
spend cosy nights in with that special male.
Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 417985 ☺

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful brunette, en-
joys aromatherapy/massage, looking for
male who appreciates a feminine, sensual
lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417787 ☺

HAPPY, fit, 77yr old widow N/S 5ft 3ins
GSOH Loves travel, many interests. WLTm
man with caravan/camper to share week-
ends/holidays. Text only to Mailbox No:
4492014 ☺

GIVEN 38, large breasted, seeks Indian/Pak-
istani/Kurdish male for daytime fun. Can
Travel/accom. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box
No: 417233 ☺

FUN loving and independent hot woman
looking for a sexy man for fun and maybe
more. GSH and grey hair preferable! Text
only to Mailbox No: 4709317 ☺

KIND caring lady early 30s, 5ft5, slim fair hair
looking for long-term relationship in Leaming-
ton Spa area. Text only to Mailbox No:
4527227 ☺

LISA, 31yr old petite bundle of fun looking for
fun, easygoing, genuine guy. Age/looks unim-
portant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417223 ☺

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, lov-
ing and honest, male interests, seeks gen-
uine male to share lonely evenings with. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417211 ☺

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth,
nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a
lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417195 ☺

KATHERINE, romantic, slim, feminine, loves
to live life to the full, seeks adventurous out-
going male to appreciate and share life with.
Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417091 ☺

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves
going out, looking to share life with that spe-
cial someone. Status/Looks/age unimpor-
tant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
417067 ☺

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim,
GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seek-
ing similar male, 55-55, Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 418699 ☺

KAREN 51 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim,
seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416337 ☺

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving
honest, funny male to pamper and make
happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416979 ☺

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks sim-
ilar male for relationship text only texts an-
swered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519 ☺

PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks
similar level headed male with no strings.
Text only to Mailbox No: Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 416727 ☺

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks sim-
ilar male for relationship text only texts an-
swered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519 ☺

HI my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build.
I am looking for a genuine male aged between
45 and 50 with GSOH who enjoys going out.
Text only Mailbox No: 4362903 ☺

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving
honest, funny male to pamper and make
happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416979 ☺

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling,
WLTm well built mature man for fun loving no
strings romance. Status unimportant. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 416917 ☺

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow
seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and
kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box
No: 417581 ☺

GINA, attractive slim blue eyed blonde, loves
to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall
male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 417419 ☺

ZARA 5ft 4ins, slim, single mum, honest, car-
ing, likes walks, seeking genuine male, 45-50
for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 417513 ☺

CARING lovely curvy female 41 seeks gen-
uine and caring guy. Text only to Mailbox
No: 4721992 ☺

GINA, attractive slim blue eyed blonde, loves
to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall
male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724
Box No: 417419 ☺

TRACY, 39, brunette, outgoing, down to
earth, fit and active has much to offer some-
one special. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906
500 3724 Box No: 417417 ☺

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic,
warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for
a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and
kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906
500 3724 Box No: 417341 ☺

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic,
warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for
a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and
kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 417341 ☺

JEAN, shy brunette with lots of love to give
to the right man, seeks mature male to share
relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box
No: 417285 ☺

PAULA 40, sensual, young at heart brunette
looking for some fun and romance with a tall
outgoing male. Call if you feel the same. ACA
Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416861 ☺

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun
loving male for an uncomplicated no strings
relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 416601 ☺

EILEEN 49, lovely brunette, adventurous and
eager to please seeks intelligent male for
friendship. Text only to Mailbox No: 416861 ☺

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette look-
ing for lively older male to make her smile
again and bring back some passion. S. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416519 ☺

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black
woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with
an experienced, confident, older guy. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 416499 ☺

SINCERE lady, seeks similar gent, widower
preferred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller
than me, N/S, car owner and likes a dog. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416471 ☺

KAREN 51 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim,
seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416337 ☺

JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, warm, young look-
ing blonde WLTm attractive down to earth
male for no strings fun, laughter and love. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416299 ☺

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to
earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up,
share a bottle of wine with and pamper. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416235 ☺

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to
get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also
looking for fun relationship with no strings.
ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416197 ☺

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking
male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287 ☺

Men seeking women

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TALL dark, attractive white male, 57, seeks
attractive, Asian/black female for discreet,
daytime fun, 20-45. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500
3724 Box No: 417483 ☺

PHILLIP, retired bank manager, 62yrs, seeks
young attractive lady, single mums welcome.
Text only to Mailbox No: 4123774 ☺

TACTILE, romantic guy, height 5ft 6ins, loves
good food and drinking in or out, dancing,
music, conversation and cuddles. Ready for
love. Text only to Mailbox No: 4893329 ☺

TALL attractive professional male, 50,
GSOH, looking for some fun, adventure and
sparkle. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
418951 ☺

MALE seeks affectionate, tactile, no drama,
down to earth woman for nights in/out and
loads of cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box
No: 418695 ☺

COLIN, 48, seeks large cuddly lady between
45-55 for LTR, must like hugs, kisses, cudd-
les and holding hands. Text only to Mail-
box No: 4906088 ☺

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes
music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks
female, 50-70 for friendship. Tel No: 0906
500 3724 Box No: 416997 ☺

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair,
likes music, cycling and photography, seeks
female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3724 Box No: 417235 ☺

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and ac-
tive seeks happy go lucky male for good con-
versation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. Tel
No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416801 ☺

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all
woman seeks sensual older male, who knows
just what he wants for lots of naughty fun
and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:
416707 ☺

SLIM fair-haired lady, 5ft4 looking for a male
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High-class cabin for stylish new Kia Optima

The all-new Kia Optima will be unveiled in European specification at the Frankfurt International Motor Show on September 15.

The fourth-generation Optima, which will go on sale across Europe in Q4 2015, has a modern, new exterior, a bold interior design with more space for all occupants, an array of new technologies and a wide choice of efficient powertrains.

The new model will offer greater refinement and improved ride and handling over the outgoing model, while retaining the sporty image that has helped Optima become one of Kia's best-selling models worldwide.

The Kia Optima plays an important role in the Kia Motors Europe product line-up, introducing the brand to an increasing number of new customers. Since the third-generation model launched in 2011, with its distinctive look, high-quality interior and high-tech image, the Optima has offered buyers something fresh and different in the D-segment.

The all-new Optima's evolutionary new look was designed to be functional and sporty, with exterior dimensions that are marginally longer, taller and wider. These changes enable a roomier and more comfortable cabin, with more head-, shoulder- and rear-seat leg-room and greater cargo capacity. From a styling perspective, the new dimensions afforded Kia's designers the chance to introduce a more swept-back, dynamic shape.

This attractive new design makes the fourth-generation model the most aerodynamic Optima to date, with drag



reduced from 0.3 to 0.29 Cd. The all-new Optima will be available in Europe in a choice of nine paint colours, and will ride on alloy wheels ranging from 16- to 18 inches in diameter.

The material quality of the all-new Optima's cabin is significantly improved over the outgoing model, with a far higher proportion of soft-touch materials, as well as cloth and leather trim in natural tones. Tasteful metallic accents throughout the cabin add a higher quality ambience to the interior.

The larger interior and exterior dimensions of the fourth-generation Optima ensure that the all-new model is the most practical, spacious and comfortable. Cargo space has grown from 505 to 510 litres (VDA), with the under-floor storage area and a wider boot opening adding greater practicality.

Standards

The all-new Optima features a uniquely engineered body which combines more high-strength materials than ever before, resulting in even higher standards of crash safety. While passive safety is improved, the new model is also equipped with a series of high-tech active and autonomous safety features, and Kia's engineers have targeted a five-star Euro NCAP safety rating throughout the Optima's development programme.

Kia's vehicle stability management is fitted as standard, ensuring stability under braking and cornering by controlling the car's electronic stability control and electric motor-driven power steering if it detects a loss of traction. The Optima is



available with a wide range of optional active hazard-avoidance technologies, depending on market.

Improving ride and handling was a top priority for Kia's dynamic development teams, with a focus on delivering the ride comfort and stability customers expect from a D-segment sedan, while achieving the level of agility promised by the car's sportier appearance. With a lighter, stiffer chassis, the suspension is better able to isolate vibrations and bumps from poor road surfaces, while a series of upgrades to the suspension set-up helps to blend agile handling with an improvement in ride comfort.

The all-new Optima debuts a number of new, advanced on-board technologies to improve usability, comfort and convenience. The new technologies featured make it the one of the most innovative cars in the D-segment. The touchscreen infotainment system is paired with a six-speaker audio system as standard. A powerful Harman Kardon Premium Sound system, featuring 10 speakers, an external

amplifier and Clari-Fi MP3 restoration technology, is also available as an option.

A first for any car in the D-segment, the all-new Optima will be available with a new wireless charger for mobile devices, allowing the new model to meet the increasing demand from car buyers – particularly in this class – for new convenience technologies. The all-new Optima will be available with a range of engines when it goes on sale across Europe later this year, striking a balance between performance and efficiency. Driving the front wheels, every engine in the range is compliant with the latest Euro 6 emission standard, resulting in cleaner emissions. The Optima is popular among both private and fleet buyers, and the fourth-generation model offers the choice of either a diesel or petrol engine, each engineered to meet the varying needs of all types of customers.

The all-new Kia Optima will offer the company's unique seven-year, 150,000km warranty as standard.

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RS4 – an object of desire

By John Griffiths

There's are good reasons why younger riders are restricted to two-wheelers with limited power: but that doesn't mean they have to be dull.

That's certainly not an adjective you could apply to Aprilia's RS125, a sharply-styled replica of the Italian company's RSV4 superbike racing machine.

Indeed, at first glance it could easily be mistaken for a one-litre machine - until you notice the extra space in the frame where there's a single cylinder in place of the expected four. It's certainly a bike to attract envious glances from riders in their late teens and early 20s who make up the target market.

But it does borrow extensively from Aprilia's impressive record of producing world class racing machines in terms of technology, aerodynamics, chassis and handling.

At £4,571 it certainly isn't cheap for this class of bike, but you are getting a race-bred machine which will turn heads and put a smile on your face, albeit with the 15bhp power limit necessary for younger riders.

This restriction is a great leveller in performance terms, but as a subjective opinion the Aprilia has the edge in terms of style and handling.

It's light and very nimble, and with its super-slick six-speed gearbox is quite capable of reaching 65mph on level ground.

And it does it so well: even with just 125cc on tap, brisk acceleration produces a sporty bark rather than a strangled-by-the-exhaust gasp of less flamboyant machines. The sin-

gle piston revs willingly up to the 10,500rpm limit.

Top gear is pitched fairly high, so smaller, lighter riders may get to use it more often than me. It's a useful dual carriageway cruising gear, helping to make the theoretical 270 mile range from the 3.5 gallon tank a reality.

The original, and hugely popular, RS4's two-stroke engine was replaced in 2011 by the current fuel injected four stroke to help meet stricter emissions regulations.

The RS 125 has a proud heritage, with a host of championship wins in its class in the hands of riders such as Biaggi, Stoner and Lorenzo and the development of the road-going replica's version has certainly reaped the benefits of lessons learned from the race machine's evolution.

One area in which it stands out is in braking: given the power restriction Aprilia hasn't skimped on the anchors with a 300mm disc and four piston calipers at the front, and a 218mm disc at the rear. The 17-inch wheels are shod with a generously-sized 100/80 tyre at the front and a 130/70 at the rear.

The chassis is also based on the racing machine: tough yet light for precise handling.

The test bike's single racing seat is a reasonably comfortable example of its kind, the pillion portion having been replaced by a colour-coded shell.

The forward riding position means you're low enough to benefit from the wind protection of the aerodynamic fairing, proving that its functional as well as an eye-catching piece of design.

While it might not be the cheapest race replica in the 125cc class, the RS4 has the looks and abilities to make it an object of desire among those new to motorcycling.



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15 Reg	Skoda Fabia, SE 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 4829mls, £20 RFL	£14,035	£2,040	£11,995
15 Reg	Skoda Rapid, SE 5dr HBK 1.6 Diesel, FSH, 10926mls, £20 RFL	£15,215	£2,920	£12,295
15 Reg	Skoda Rapid, SE Tech 5dr HBK 1.6 Diesel, FSH, 10158mls, £30 RFL	£18,365	£5,370	£12,995
15 Reg	Skoda Octavia, VRS 180PS 5dr EST 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 6812mls, £30 RFL	£25,960	£5,960	£19,995
15 Reg	Skoda Yeti, Outdoor Elegance 140PS 5dr 4x4 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 2781mls	£24,910	£3,910	£20,995
15 Reg	Skoda Superb, SE DSG AUTO 5dr HBK 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 8444mls	£24,205	£7,210	£16,995

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The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. *Celerio range – Celerio 1.0 S22 Petrol Manual available at £6,999 to Celerio 1.0 S24 Petrol AGS available at £9,799. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st July 2015 to 30th September 2015 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. Model shown: Celerio S22 (metallic paint available at £415).

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C-Max offers most

By Ian Donaldson

Style seems to win most battles these days when a family decides more room is needed to keep the kids happy in the back of the car.

It's a victory often won by a big, tall bruiser of a car that looks ready for the urban jungle or a trip up the nearest mountain. An SUV in other words; something that adds a touch of the big outdoors to the daily grind.

But there is an alternative. It won't gather admiring glances at the school gates but it will almost certainly be cheaper to run, more practical and, if you're only moderately lucky, be much nicer to drive.

Which brings us to the latest version of the Ford Grand C-MAX, fresh from a mid-life makeover and about as trim as a sensible seven seater ever could, with Ford's handsome new grille (looking more than ever like an Aston Martin) and sharper style to the headlights, while Ford watching anoraks will spot a simpler look to the rear.

Inside, there is a hike in apparent quality of the materials you touch or look at, along with fewer switches and a big touch screen in the manner of the latest Ford Focus.

Under the bonnet the big news is the availability of a new 1.5 litre diesel engine that produces more power and fewer pollutants than the larger, 1.6 litre unit it replaces.

You can also choose from two versions of Ford's fine 1.0 litre EcoBoost petrol engine or a 2.0 litre diesel. Prices range from £20,295 to £27,615 and are £1,600 more than Ford asks for the smaller C-MAX, which looks a reasonable premium for the Grand C-MAX's third row of seats and the convenience of sliding rear doors in place of the conventionally opening pair on the 14cms (5.5 inches) shorter car.

Both models have more than 20 storage spaces scattered around the cabin, which should be quieter thanks to thicker side window glass, more absorbent seals on the tailgate and extra soundproofing under the bonnet, with extra attention paid to the diesel models.

Features

Depending on version, you will find as standard, or optional, safety features that include a blind spot information system, lane departure warning, traffic sign recognition and adaptive cruise control that can warn when you are too close to the vehicle in front.

But most Fords of recent years have stood out from the pack for the way they drive. It's not, as an engineer from a rival company once told me, that others could not make their cars nicer to drive, it's just that they had other priorities.

So good for Ford to find that the latest C-MAX and Grand C-MAX have been lightly breathed on to make them still better from behind the wheel, with gentle massaging of dampers, suspension bushes and power steering settings.

The result, with the new 118bhp diesel engine doing the work in a £23,145 Titanium spec Grand C-MAX is a car that drives like something much smaller and less accommodating of five adults plus a couple of growing children in the third row.

It is so much removed from the rock and roll lifestyle of a typical SUV as to feel like a car from another planet. A dashboard readout of 44mpg after a brisk outing was further proof that fun and family need not be mutually exclusive.



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£149.42	£9,694.00	£925.00	£925.00	£8,629.00	£10,292.00	£3,000.00	6,000	6.0	48 months	

Based on 6,000 miles per annum, excess mileage charge is 6p per mile.

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: NEW FORD FOCUS ZETEC 1.0T ECOBOOST 100PS S6*

36 monthly payments	Each price	Customer deposit	Deposit allowance	Amount of credit	Total amount payable (inc. optional final payment)	GMV (optional final payment)	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge (pence per mile)	Term	4.3% APR Representative
£249.00	£16,737.00	£2,075.00	£2,075.00	£14,662.00	£16,028.00	£5,000.00	6,000	6.0	36 months	

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New KA Titanium Includes Blush Paint, Spare Wheel, Bluetooth	1 only	£11890	£10060	£1830
New Fiesta Style 5dr 60ps	5 only	£12495	£11245	£1250
New Fiesta Zetec 3dr 1.25 Includes Spare Wheel	3 only	£13295	£11995	£1300
New Fiesta Zetec 5dr 1.25 Includes Met Paint, Spare Wheel	2 only	£14290	£12990	£1300
New Fiesta Zetec 1.0 EcoBoost 5dr 100ps Includes Spare Wheel, Met Paint	5 only	£15290	£13900	£1390
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New EcoSport 1.5 Diesel Zetec Includes Metallic Paint, Roof Rails	2 only	£16540	£15490	£1050
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New Focus Zetec 1.0 125ps EcoBoost Includes White Paint, SYNC 2 Nav	5 only	£19845	£18036	£1808
New Focus Zetec 1.5 TDCI 120ps Includes Appearance Pack	1 only	£20095	£18226	£1868

MODEL	STOCK	LIST PRICE	FROM	SAVE
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New Focus Titanium X 1.5 TDCI 120ps Includes Candy Red Paint	1 only	£23739	£21532	£2207
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New B-Max Titanium 1.6 TDCI 95ps Includes Spare Wheel, Metallic paint	1 only	£18590	£16957	£1633
New B-Max Titanium X 1.0 EcoBoost 125ps Includes White Paint, City Pack	1 only	£18944	£17189	£1755
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New C-Max Titanium 1.6 Diesel Includes Reverse Sensor, Mini Spare Wheel, Metallic	4 only	£21400	£18000	£3400
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TESTED

Ford Grand C-MAX 1.5 TDCI Titanium

Engine: 118bhp diesel

Warranty: Three years, 60,000 mileage

Economy: The Grand C-MAX can do 64.2 mpg

Insurance group: 16

Price: £23,145

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD Mondeo 2.0 Duratec EcoBoost (240PS) Saloon, A6: Urban 25.9 (10.9), Extra Urban 47.1 (6.0), Combined 36.7 (7.7), CO₂ emissions 179(g/km). Lowest: FORD Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost (125PS) Stop-Start, M5: urban 52.3 (5.4), extra urban 76.3 (3.7), combined 65.7 (4.3). Official CO₂ emission 99g/km.

Retail only. Subject to availability. Prices & details correct at time of publishing & are subject to change without notice. The Finance Deposit Allowance is only available when financed with Ford Credit. *Finance subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over through Ford Credit. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. An Excess Mileage Charge will be payable if you decide to return the vehicle & the agreed annual mileage has been exceeded. Finance example figures are based on 6,000 miles per annum for illustration purposes & may vary depending on circumstances. Cars must be contracted and registered before 30th September 2015. Terms & conditions apply. Please note calls may be recorded for training & quality purposes. Furrows Group Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority as a credit broker but not as a lender.

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Motoring



Infiniti Q70 looks the part

By Graham Breeze

There's a new player in the large executive market with an eye on the fleet sector.

It's a sector dominated by Audi A6, Mercedes E-Class and BMW 5 but the Infiniti Q70 is well worth a second look, particularly now there's a 2.2 diesel on offer.

I've just had a week behind the wheel of the stunningly attractive Q70 and spent most of my time explaining to admirers that Infiniti is the posh arm of Nissan – just like Lexus is to Toyota.

The first Q70 didn't sell well when badged in "M" format but the new look, some interesting tweaks and a 2.2 diesel unit to replace the 3.6-litre V6 have changed the outlook completely.

The Auto Sports Tech model on test is a very attractive car and attracted admiring glances and questions all week, with its distinctive grill, well proportioned curves and beautiful 20inch alloy wheels.

Admirers were impressed at the price too. At £38,950 the Q70 is competitive and an electric sunroof and metallic paint only took the test car price up to £40,580.

For your money you get a seven speed automatic gearbox with manual mode and paddle shifts, speed sensitive power steering assistance, active

trace control and a start/stop system to help keep fuel prices down.

Safety is high on the agenda with tyre pressure monitoring, hill start assist, six airbags, active front headrests, rain and light sensors, four wheel ABS, speed limiter, cruise control, blind spot warning, distance control, forward collision warning, lane departure prevention and an engine immobiliser and alarm.

Outwardly the Q70 looks the part standing impressively on the sports design alloys. There's body colour exterior mirrors which are heated and fold electrically, sports design bumpers to front and rear LED auto-levelling lights, front fog lights, twin exhaust chrome tailpipes and a distinctive red "S" badge to the rear.

I could have spent hours just sitting in the cabin where you get a multifunction leather steering wheel, loads of reach and height control and stand-out aluminium pedals to match the black interior trim.

There's all the usual technology you expect today from a luxury car but importantly everything seems to be where you would expect it and is easy to handle.

You can select from a range of driving modes, and there's keyless entry, rear view camera with front and rear sensors. There's also a very impressive Around View Monitor with corner park-

ing sensors, moving object detection and parking guidance – though I found this a little too distracting – I like to do some things myself.

The driving position is a joy on a sports designed and either heated or cooled seat and there are all the adjustments you need.

There was no problem with getting the golf clubs on board with 450litres of boot space and rear seat passenger also sit in comfort with ample leg room.

When standing there was a little more engine noise than I expected but that all goes away once on the road though the Q70 is a comfortable rather than exciting car to drive.

Infiniti claim 57.6mpg on the combined cycle – I only achieved around 50mpg. But perhaps that was down to a heavy foot because performance is good with a top speed of 137mpg and 0-62mph in 8.9 secs, good for a diesel. CO2 emissions are OK too at 129g/km.

The downside is that there are no where near enough dealerships in the UK but Infiniti offer to collect your car when it needs servicing, and leave you with a loan car until its returned. You also get a Touring Assistance package when you buy a new model. And while I would still be a little concerned about residual values the Q70 is now a genuine option. If Infiniti can crack the fleet sales market you will be seeing a lot more on the roads.

ROGER EATON CARS

2005 05	MITSUBISHI SHOGUN 3.2 DTD 5DR, MET BLUE, LEATHER SEATS, SUNROOF, ALLOYS, A/C	£4,995
2007 07	FORD FOCUS CC 3 MET BLUE, LEATHER, 37,000 MILES	£6,995
2012 62	AUDI A5 20 TDI TECHNIK IN WHITE 67,000 MILES SAT NAV, LEATHER, PDC	£16,500
2006 06	MINI COOPER CAB MET BLUE, BLUE LEATHER, A/C, ALLOYS	£5,750
2012 12	VW GOLF GT TDI 40 S DSG AUTO IN BLACK, BLACK LEATHER, ACC, PHONE, CRUISE/CONTROL 29,000 MILES	£12,995
2004 04	FORD STREETKA IN RED, LEATHER, ALLOYS	£2,495
2005 55	MERCEDES E320 CDI IN SILVER, ACC, LEATHER, FSH	£6,495
2006 06	FORD MONDEO 1.8 ZETEC AUTO IN GREY, 87,000 MILES	£2,495
2007 57	PEUGEOT 207 GT 3DR IN RED, PAN ROOF, 56,000 MILES	£4,495
2011 11	VW T5 TRANSPORTER KOMBI B1 TURBO 2.0 TDI 180PS IN BLACK MET, SPORT LINE SPOILERS, 20" ALLOYS	£25,200 NO VAT
2006 06	LAND ROVER FREELANDER TDI 400 AUTO IN SILVER, LEATHER TRIM, A/C, ALLOYS	£4,995
2007 57	NISSAN 2.5 CDI PATHFINDER AVENTURA IN SILVER, BLACK LEATHER, A/C, ALLOYS, REAR CAMERA, TOW BAR, SAT NAV, BLUE TOOTH	£8,495
2005 05	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.4 COLOUR COLLECTION, S/H	£2,495
2009 59	TOYOTA YARIS 1.4 D-4D TR 38,500 MILES, IN RED, SERVICE HISTORY	£6,250
2011 61	SKODA OCTAVIA DIESEL ESTATE 1.6 SE IN SILVER, 130,000 MILES	£4,995
2010 10	PEUGEOT 207 HDI PARTNER 1.6 IN BLACK, ALLOYS, AIR/CON	£3,995
2008 08	LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 2.7 HSE 48000 MILES	£15,995
2009 59	CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.4 VTR+ IN MET BLUE, ALLOYS, AIR/CON	£5,250
2004 54	MERCEDES S CLAS 3200, AUTO SAT NAV, MET BLUE	£4,495
2008 08	RANGE ROVER SPORT 2.7 HSE, IN BLACK, SUNROOF, SIDE BARS	£11,995
2003 03	TOYOTA MR2 1.8 IN MET BLUE, ALLOYS, 93,000 MILES	£2,495
2007 57	MERCEDES A 170, AUTO ACC, FRONT/REAR PDC ALLOYS 36,000 MILES	£4,995
2012 12	VW PASSAT 20 TDI IN WHITE, 30,000 MILES	£10,995
2011 61	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 TDI VAN IN SILVER, 70,000 MILES	£3,995
2011 11	SKODA FABIA 1.6 TDI CR 5DR IN MET GREY, AIR/CON, 30,000 MILES	£6,750
2011 11	AUDI A6 2.0 SLINE 170 BHP GREY MET PAINT, BLACK LEATHER 70,000 MILES 19 INCH ALLOYS	£13,495
2009 59	FIAT PANDA 1.1 5DR IN WHITE 34,000 MILES	£2,495
2008 58	MERCEDES B CLASS 200 TDCI AUTO IN BLACK/LEATHER, ALLOYS 52,000 MILES	£7,995

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2012 12 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom Manual, 25,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH **£8,499**



2008 58 AUDI A3 1.9 TDi Sportback 5-door Manual. Metallic Silver, 62,000 miles, £30 Road Tax, FSH **£8,999**



2011 61 AUDI A3 1.6 Sportback Manual. Metallic Silver, 32,000 miles, FSH **£10,999**



2014 14 CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR+ Manual. Metallic Blue, 10,000 miles, FSH **£8,999**



2006 06 BMW 330i CABRIOLET Auto. Metallic Silver, Leather, 53,000 miles **£6,499**



2014 64 SUZUKI SX4 2-CROSS 1.6 Petrol. One Owner, 15,000 miles, Sparkling Green Metallic, Excellent Fuel Economy **£10,999**



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2011 11	AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI SPORT 3-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 35,000 miles, FSH	£10,999
2006 06	AUDI RS4 SALOON Manual, Bright Red, Only 54,000 miles, FSH, Stunning Condition	£21,999
2009 59	AUDI TT 2.0 FSi Coupe. Silver Metallic, Half Leather, 6 Speed Box, 55,500 miles, FSH	SOLD
2007 57	BMW 520D M SPORT TOURING 2.0 Diesel. Black with Black Leather, 18" Alloy Wheels, 63,000 miles	£9,999
2011	BMW 520 D SE Auto. Metallic Grey, Beige Leather, One Owner, only 27,000 miles, FSF	£16,499
2011 11	BMW 320 D Saloon Manual. Blue Metallic, One Owner, 20.00 a Year Road Tax, FSH, 58,000 miles	£10,999
2012 12	BMW X1 SERIES 2.0d AUTOMATIC Metallic Bronze, 51,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH	£13,999
2006 06	BMW 330i CABRIOLET Auto. Metallic Silver, Leather, 53,000 miles	£6,499
2011 11	CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE 1.8, Automatic, 1 Owner	£4,999
2014 14	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR+ Manual. Metallic Blue, 10,000 miles, FSH	£8,999
2012 12	CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.6 HDi Manual. Metallic Blue, 16,000 miles, 1 Owner	£8,999
2012 61	CITROEN 1.0 VTR+ 3-door, Red, 20,000 miles, A/C, Zero Road Tax	£4,999
2008 58	FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2 Pale Blue, Metallic, Manual, Pan Roof, 52,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2012 61	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 5-door Manual. 56,000 miles, FSH, Black	£8,499
2011 11	FORD FOCUS ST 3-door Manual. Bright Orange, 38,000 miles, FSH	£14,499
2009 59	FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC 3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles	£4,499
2008 58	FORD KUGA 4x4 TDCi TITANIUM. Metallic Black, Full Leather, Manual, 79,000 miles	SOLD
2010 60	HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH	£7,499
2004 04	JAGUAR 3.0 SE 4-door Auto. Green Metallic, Full Leather, 73,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2008 58	LAND ROVER DISCOVERY TDV6 GS Auto. Black, 56,400 miles, Privacy Glass, FSH	SOLD
2010 10	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 XS 2.2 DIESEL Sat Nav, White, 60,000 miles, FSH	£14,999
2008 08	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS Manual. Metallic Black, FSH, 62,000 miles	£10,999
2007 07	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.2 S TD4 Auto. Grey Metallic, 75,200 miles, Side Steps, Privacy Glass	£9,999
2007 07	MERCEDES A160 CDI CLASSIC Manual. Metallic Blue, 37,000 miles, FSH	£4,999
2011 60	MITSUBISHI LANCER 2.0 TDi HATCHBACK Manual, Metallic Blue, 57,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
2011 60	MITSUBISHI LANCER EVO XGSR FQ300 Saloon. Blue Metallic, 20,900 miles, FSH	£18,999
2007 07	NISSAN X-TRAIL ADVENTURE 2.2 DCi Manual, 4x4, Metallic Silver, leather, Sat Nav, only 48,000 miles	£7,799
2009 09	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3-door, Metallic Blue, 61,000 miles	£3,999
2012 12	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi ACCESS 5-door Manual. Metallic Grey, £30 a year Road Tax, 50,000 miles	£6,499
2015 15	PEUGEOT EXPERT HDi Diesel Van. White, Side Loading Door, Only 600 miles, Only 2 Months Old	£ 11,499+VAT
2011 61	PEUGEOT BIPPER HDi Diesel Van. Silver Metallic, Side Loading Door, One Owner, 49,800 miles	£4,999+VAT
2007 57	PEUGEOT 308 S 1.6 HDi 5-door. Black, 77,300 miles, Air Conditioning	£3,999
2011 61	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi ESTATE Tom Tom, Manual, Metallic Red, 40,000 miles, 1 Owner	£6,999
2012 12	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, Manual, 25,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	£8,499
2010 10	SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT DSG 3-door, Red, 62,000 miles	£5,999
2009 59	SEAT IBIZA SPORT 1.6 Automatic 3-door. Blue Metallic, One Owner, Only 16,000 miles	£5,699
2007 07	SKODA FABIA 1.2 CLASSIC 5-door. Black, 66,100 miles, FSH	SOLD
2005 55	SMART CITY PASSION Convertible Auto. Silver Metallic, 53,500 miles, £30 Road Tax	£3,499
2009 09	SUZUKI VITARA 2.0 EXC 5-door 4x4 Manual. 38,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2003 53	SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 3-Door, Soft Top, Black over Silver, 74,000 miles	£2,699
2014 64	SUZUKI SX4 S-CROSS 1.6 Petrol, 1 owner, 15,000 miles, Sparkling Green Metallic, Excellent fuel economy	£10,999
2012 12	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDI SRI Estate. Only 28,000 miles, Metallic Black, FSH	£10,999
2012 12	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi SRI Estate, Manual, Metallic Black, 27,000 miles, 2 owners, Sat Nav	£10,999
2011 61	VW GOLF 2.0 GTi 3-door, Red, One Owner, 36,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, FSH	£15,999
2009 59	VW GOLF 1.4S 3-door. Manual, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
2007 07	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GTi 1.8T 3-door. Only 43,000 miles, Red, Manual, Stunning Car, FSH	SOLD



2011 11 AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI SPORT 3-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 35,000 miles, FSH **£10,999**



2007 07 NISSAN X-TRAIL ADVENTURE 2.2DCi Manual, 4x4, Metallic Silver, leather, Sat Nav, only 48,000 miles **£7799**



2007 07 LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.2 S TD4 Auto. Grey Metallic, 75,200 miles, Side Steps, Privacy Glass **£9,999**



2008 08 LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2TD4 GS Manual, Metallic Black, FSH, 62,000 miles **£10,999**



2011 BMW 520D SE Auto. Metallic Grey, Beige Leather Interior, One Owner, Only 27,000 miles, FSH **£16,499**



2012 12 CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.6 HDi Manual. Metallic Blue, 16,000 miles, 1 Owner **£8,999**



2011 11 FORD FOCUS ST 3-door Manual. Bright Orange, 38,000 miles, FSH **£14,499**



2005 55 SMART CITY PASSION Convertible Auto. Silver Metallic, 53,500 miles, £30 Road Tax **£3,499**



2012 12 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE. Tom Tom, Manual, Metallic Blue, 25,000 miles, FSH **£8,499**



2009 59 SEAT IBIZA SPORT 1.6 Automatic 3-door. One Owner, Only 16,000 miles **£5,699**

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Wem	21	12	6	2	41 361
St Georges	21	10	3	4	55 299
Shifnal	21	10	3	4	52 290
Frankton	21	9	3	8	22 257
Brosley	21	9	3	8	22 257
Ludlow/S Shop	21	7	2	10	65 248
Quatt	21	5	5	9	67 235
Bornere Heath	21	0	12	8	55 232
Madley	21	7	8	5	48 231
Count	21	2	3	14	96 158
Wroxeter Grove	21	2	3	15	1 80 118

Division 1					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Albrighton	21	16	1	2	14 386
Shelton	21	11	2	5	34 356
Forton	21	12	3	5	1 34 342
Alberbury	21	11	0	9	45 323
Willesley	21	12	4	3	62 282
Aliscott	21	10	3	7	41 303
Newtown	21	9	0	9	60 299
Market Drayton	21	8	2	8	50 250
Shifnal	21	12	4	3	60 239
Beacon	21	5	2	13	75 222
Pontesbury	21	4	12	6	69 187
Tibberton	21	4	1	15	1 59 157

Division 2					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Condover	21	12	6	2	50 377
Wellington	21	11	4	4	47 325
Ellesmere	21	9	4	7	67 283
Willesley	21	5	5	11	65 282
Welsoph	21	9	5	4	48 271
Montgomery	21	8	5	7	55 265
Church Stretton	21	6	3	10	75 222
Cae Glas	21	6	3	10	48 221
Bishops Castle	21	7	4	12	42 216
Shrewsbury	21	6	4	10	58 205
Prees	21	5	11	4	65 203
Much Wenlock	21	2	16	1	77 157

Division 3					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Iscoyd/Fenns B	21	12	5	3	48 358
Wheaton Aston	21	11	6	3	56 357
Shifnal	21	12	4	4	40 332
Church Aston	21	10	4	6	64 315
Llandloes	21	9	4	5	46 284
Oswestry	21	7	5	7	62 267
Concorde	21	7	4	9	60 226
Calverhall	21	4	4	9	60 226
Ludlow/S Shop	21	6	11	6	67 225
Chelmarsh	21	5	6	9	78 211
Harpers	21	2	10	9	91 170
Wroxeter Grove	21	3	11	6	85 150

Division 4					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Trysil/Seidon	19	11	7	1	28 344
Shifnal	19	11	7	1	28 344
Harpur	19	12	6	1	44 279
Hinckley	19	8	7	4	8 270
St Georges	19	11	4	3	37 260
Overton-on-Dee	19	7	10	0	35 255
Acton Reynald	19	10	5	4	35 255
Concorde	19	6	10	3	33 145
Beacon	19	13	0	3	36 130
Quattfield	20	9	5	6	42 121
Gullish	19	5	9	5	42 121

Division 4A					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Newport	21	13	4	2	39 388
Bornere Heath	21	8	2	11	52 324
Alberbury	21	12	2	7	52 324
Worfield	21	9	6	4	59 304
Count	21	7	5	7	68 294
Wem	21	5	8	6	67 275
Knockin & Kinn	21	2	12	7	21 228
Wellington	21	4	6	8	74 211
Frankton	20	6	5	7	66 200
Reman Services	21	4	10	7	76 200
Madley	21	4	12	5	65 177
Whitchurch	21	1	14	6	67 72

Division 5					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Shifnal	21	20	0	0	0 455
Quattfield	21	12	4	5	40 380
Albrighton	21	12	4	3	34 340
Pontesbury	21	14	3	3	32 340
Acton Reynald	21	10	7	4	42 390
Ludlow/S Shop	21	8	7	6	42 390
Lilleshal	21	9	9	2	41 320
Shrewsbury	21	8	4	7	42 225
Corvedale	21	5	12	3	70 193
Knockin & Kinn	21	6	10	5	61 188
Wellington	21	5	10	6	52 188
Much Wenlock	21	2	13	7	75 160
Lilleshal	21	3	7	8	62 153
Madley	21	2	15	4	62 153
Aliscott	21	3	13	5	53 114

Reserve Division 1					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Count	21	15	2	2	38 404
Ludlow/S Shop	21	11	2	8	38 404
Quatt	21	11	3	6	41 317
Wem	21	7	5	6	67 300
Roman Serv	21	10	1	8	52 297
Newport	21	8	7	6	58 288
St Georges	21	8	3	8	73 279
Frankton	21	8	3	9	53 264
Wellington	21	7	4	9	59 242
Madley	21	2	12	7	62 200
Bornere Heath	21	3	10	8	73 195
Aliscott	21	3	11	4	66 168

Reserve Division 2					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Knockin & Kinn	21	10	5	2	49 353
Lilleshal	21	10	5	2	66 345
Alberbury	21	11	4	4	51 344
Willesley	21	8	7	5	57 277
Shelton	21	8	7	6	67 234
Forton	21	6	4	10	66 225
Condover	21	7	6	5	57 220
Wroxeter Grove	21	7	6	5	57 220
Cae Glas	21	6	11	4	92 198
Aliscott	21	3	11	7	70 178
Welsoph	21	5	11	5	44 163

Reserve Division 3					
P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Montgomery	21	12	2	3	35 345
Ellesmere	21	11	3	3	38 324
Iscoyd/Fenns B	21	11	2	8	45 297
Market Drayton	21	10	6	3	41 299
Brosley	21	10	6	3	41 299
Newtown	21	9	10	1	42 278
Shifnal	21	8	5	7	61 269
Oswestry	21	7	6	5	67 264
Bishops Castle	21	6	11	4	62 264
Tibberton	21	6	10	5	60 199
St Georges	21	5	12	1	54 156
Wroxeter Grove	21	2	17	2	41 61

Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League

First Teams					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Shrewsbury	22	14	1	5	0 2349
Berkswell	22	13	5	0	0 1333
Knowle & D	22	13	1	6	0 2327
Kidderminster	22	11	2	7	0 2247
WB Dartmouth	22	10	2	7	0 3289
Ombersley	22	11	3	6	0 2268
Barnley	22	8	2	10	0 2258
Palmer Green	22	9	10	0	0 2258
Kenilworth W	22	8	0	11	0 3220
W'ham	22	5	14	0	0 2174
Bromington	22	4	15	0	0 2168
Dordridge	22	4	15	0	0 1168

Division One					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Walsall	22	14	0	5	0 3340
Halesowen	22	11	1	0	0 2718
Old Hill	22	10	4	6	0 2297
Smethwick	22	9	4	6	0 3289
Himley	22	9	4	7	0 2284
Barnards	22	10	1	8	0 2219
Bromsgrove	22	10	3	6	0 3279
Moseley	22	9	2	8	0 3269
Atterley	22	3	10	0	0 2232
Wellington	22	6	12	2	0 2205
Harborne	22	4	2	13	0 3173
Oswestry	22	3	15	0	0 3149

Division Two					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Brighthorn	22	17	2	1	0 2397
Sutton C'field	22	14	3	2	1 2381
Halesowen	22	8	5	6	1 2283
Parkbridge	22	11	1	0	0 2278
Coventry/NW	22	8	4	9	0 2259
Tamworth	22	8	5	7	0 2256
Shifnal	22	8	4	9	0 1239
Palmer Green	22	9	10	0	0 1223
Wbourne	22	6	11	2	0 2299
Stourbridge	22	5	5	10	0 2195
Easton	22	4	13	3	0 2173
Brewod	22	4	13	0	0 1167

Division Three					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
C & R Hawks	22	16	0	3	0 3372
Sutton-Avon	22	13	2	5	0 3339
Welford	22	12	3	2	0 3339
Alston Manor	22	10	1	9	0 2290
Forthhouses	22	10	1	9	1 2287
Streety	22	10	1	8	0 3282
Palmer Green	22	10	1	8	0 3282
Whitchurch	22	10	1	10	0 1258
Astwood Bank	22	9	10	0	0 2234
Worcester	22	9	10	0	0 2234
Water Orton	22	8	14	0	0 2195
Kings Heath	22	3	14	1	0 2168

Second Teams					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Moseley	22	12	3	0	0 3343
Leam'ton Spa	22	10	4	4	0 4323
Walsall	22	12	2	5	0 3315
W'ham	22	9	7	3	0 3274
WB Dartmouth	22	9	5	5	0 3269
Kidderminster	22	8	3	8	0 3245
Bromington	22	8	3	8	0 3245
Harborne	22	6	3	10	0 3221
Himley	22	6	3	10	0 2207
Atterley	22	5	12	3	0 3188
Barn Green	22	4	12	0	0 2156

Division One					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Shifnal	22	14	2	4	0 2340
Halesowen	22	11	3	6	0 2317
Shrewsbury	22	11	3	6	0 2298
Walsall	22	11	3	6	0 2290
Coventry/NW	22	10	3	6	0 3286
Wellington	22	10	3	6	0 3265
Palmer Green	22	10	3	6	0 3262
Kenilworth W	22	7	4	8	0 3252
Old Hill	22	6	3	11	0 2222
Parkbridge	22	4	12	2	0 2188
Tamworth	22	4	12	2	0 2188
S'ford-Avon	22	4	14	2	0 2168

Division Two North					
P	W	D	L	T	A P
Oswestry	22	15	2	0	0 4375
Brighthorn	22	15	2	0	0 4375
Smethwick	22	13	1	6	0 3330
Brewod	22	13	1	5	0 3311
Shifnal	22	12	2	2	0 2285
C & R Hawks	22	8	3	9	0 2258
Pelars	22	8	2	10	0 2231
O Elizabethans	22	6	10	3	0 3067
Alston Manor	22	6	10	3	0 3067
Forthhouses	22	6	12	2	0 2862
W'ham	22	6	12	2	0 2862
Streety	22	3	13	3	0 3149

Knockin outshine Beacon for super win

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY maintained their pursuit of a top four finish in the Shropshire League division one after sweeping aside Beacon in their penultimate outing.

Batting first, they seized the initiative with opener Steven Gray hitting 52, along with other useful knocks from Paul Higginson (44), Jak Jones (41) and Ashley Sokaloo (38no) to take the score to a healthy 230-7 in 42 overs.

Beacon were never in the hunt, slumping to 111 all out in the 36th over, with Matty Evans taking 4-53 and Jamie Jagger 3-33.

WELSHPOOL II'S relegation from the reserve division two was confirmed as they suffered a seven wicket loss to Condover II.

The Maesydre side, lying at the foot of the table, knew they needed, but were unable to break loose after being put in to bat.

They mustered 139 all out in the 36th over, Nick Davies hitting 44 at the top or the order and David Williams 31, while James Upton picked up 5-26. Condover were made to work hard for the runs in reply, but got home thanks to 56 from skipper Mike Rogers in the 40th over while opener Dale Hargrave was 32 not out.

FRANKTON slumped to a 138-run loss to Wem in the premier division, being bowled out for 115 in response to 253.

Chris Peel top scored with 46 and Paul Mitchell 44 as Wem rattled up a competitive score, while there were four wickets apiece for Richard Parry-Jones and Harry Stow. In reply, Frankton were soon in trouble and struggled to 115 all out, Sam Owen top scoring with 28.

Monty all out for 65 – but still upbeat

MONTGOMERY are guaranteed a top six finish in the Shropshire League division two despite being skittled for 65 in a disappointing 96-run loss at Church Stretton.

An unbeaten 67 from Rob Whittall helped set up Stretton's 159-3 in 40 overs.

The target looked to be within reach, but Monty subsided to 65 all out, Patrick Wilding (15) top scoring as just two players reached double figures.

Already assured of promotion, leaders **MONTGOMERY II** are on the brink of the reserve division three crown after storming to a 162-run win against St Georges IV.

Tom Cornfield hit an unbeaten 59 at the top of the order to hold the innings together as Monty posted 209-7 in 40 overs, Rob Yewdall forming a crucial eighth wicket stand with 48 not out.

In reply, St Georges were skittled for 47, Yewdall completing a fine all round game with 4-4 from five overs and Rupert Shepherd 3-12.

Pool leave Rhyl rocked in first game

WELSHPOOL made the perfect start to their Swalec Welsh League division three (north) campaign with a rousing 30-10 home success against Rhyl and District.

Pool were 6-3 in front at the break with two penalties from skipper and fly half Andrew Thomas, but Rhyl hit back in the second half with a converted try to lead 10-6.

However, the Maesydre men dug deep and crossed the line three times to run out winners. No8 Joe Stranks got the first try, Thomas then touched down and scrum-half Tom Williams also went over.

COBRA II were edged out 20-19 at Powrys rivals Newtown II in a friendly, despite running in three tries through scrum half Bryn Davies, fullback Richard Jones and flanker Wyn Williams.

Yapp leads Glas to win for one last time

CAE Glas eased the threat of relegation in the Shropshire League division two by securing a five-wicket success over Ellesmere in their penultimate game.

For a change, the Glas won a helpful toss and made the most of their early advantage as skipper Keith Yapp, playing his last home game for the club, put the visitors in to bat at Gatacre.

Tidy, accurate bowling never allowed the third placed visitors to cut loose, although Fraser Duncan batted well for 20 and Graeme Cowey top scored with a sparkling 38.

Tom Davies added support with 29 as Ellesmere

closed on 141-9, with skipper Yapp the pick of the bowlers with 3-26, Ruch Nimantha and Gareth Edgerton both picked up a brace of wickets.

The Glas reply began patiently, with Ben Hipkiss (23) and top scorer Edgerton, with 30, making sure a platform was built for the middle order to launch their attack. Nimantha (19) and Yapp (16 not out) then saw the hosts to victory by five wickets, while Tom Davies kept things tight with the ball in taking 3-32.

Victory means that Cae Glas are virtually assured of preserving their second division status after mov-

ing 18 points clear of the drop zone.

Second bottom **GUILDSFIELD** ended a tough season in division four on a positive note with a winning draw and 15 points against Coton Hall.

Opting to bat first on winning the toss, they were bowled out for a creditable 208 in 37 overs, opener Gary Griffiths hitting 66 and Tom Kneale 72 to dominate the innings before a late collapse as Peter Towers took 6-22.

Chasing a revised target, Coton Hall fell short on 187-9 with the result in the balance right to the end, Gareth Rich top scoring on 59 while Kneale capped

Oswestry's seconds clinch championship

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

CELEBRATIONS were the order of the day as Oswestry II cruised to a comfortable nine-wicket victory over Whitchurch II at Morda Road to clinch the Division Two 2nd XI North title in the Birmingham League.

Josh Coleridge's side, who needed just four points at the start of play to make sure of the championship, saw their game reduced to 33 overs a side owing to the heavy overnight rain.

But they went about the job in determined fashion, restricting the visitors to 140-9, and it was skipper Coleridge who led the way, taking 4-23 off his six overs.

Owen Aspinall weighed in with 2-31, and there was a wicket each for Xavier Clarke and Jonny Davies.

Coleridge was dismissed cheaply when Oswestry replied, but former first team stalwart Nick Williams (71no) and Callum Morris (41no) saw the side home at 141-1.

By contrast, Oswestry's first team ended the season on a losing note at Barnards Green, and will now be looking to rebuild after a season that has seen them relegated back to division two of the Birmingham League.

In trouble

A strong Barnards Green side rattled up 290-5 in game reduced by rain to 46 overs a side, with Worcestershire pair Alex Hepburn (67) and George Rhodes (60) cashing in on the good start given them by Andrew Curtis (63) – son of former England opener Tim.

Joe Clarke batted superbly to make 68 in Oswestry's reply, but they were always in trouble once he was out.

Last man Ian Davies provided some cheer with 33 off 15 balls, but the innings closed on 196.

OSWESTRY III suffered a heavy defeat at Shifnal III in the Shropshire League division three, where home bowler Noel Gurr put up an amazing performance.

Gurr took 8-17 off seven overs to send Oswestry tumbling to 75 all out, with only Richard Jones (23no) putting up much resistance, with Shifnal coasting to victory as they reached 77-2 in the 20th over.

OSWESTRY IV slipped to a five-wicket defeat against Shifnal IV in a reserve division three game which rounded off Sunday cricket for the



Oswestry Second XI celebrate winning the Division Two 2nd XI North title in the Birmingham League. From left are (back): Keith Shuttleworth (umpire), Steve Humphreys, Owen Aspinall, Ryan Morris, Jonny Davies, Nick Williams, Callum Morris, Simon Willsmer (scorer). Front: Alex Roberts, Josh Coleridge (captain), Xavie Clarke, Luke Jones, Adam Lloyd, Matt Whithread.

year at Morda Road.

Veteran Jim Philips hit 50 before retiring hurt, as Oswestry posted 173-7 in their 40 overs. Owen Johnson (27), Dan Graham (22) and Jack Grainger (20) lent good support.

Oswestry's stand-in skipper Allan Morris bowled well to finish with 3-42 when Shifnal replied, but the visitors got home at 174-5 with 11 balls to spare.

■ The season ends on Saturday when Oswestry III play Calverhall at Morda Road (1pm), while the

Eagles fly to another win on road



Oswestry on the attack against Congleton with fly half Finn Grogan in possession as he team-mates look to support

A STRONG second half display saw Oswestry's rugby players maintain their winning start to the newly formed South Cheshire League with a 23-3 success at Congleton.

Expectations were high after the previous week's big 67-14 win over Ashton on Mersey, but the Eagles faced a far tougher encounter against a side they had never played before.

The sides were level 3-3 at half-time, before the visitors surged ahead in the second half to claim a hard-fought victory ahead of their first home game of the season against Dukinfield on Saturday.

Congleton were on the attack from the off, but Oswestry held firm, with some magnificent defending repelling their raids after being pushed back towards their line.

The Eagles hit back, with Luca Owen-Youens and Nick Howland testing the backs with some strong runs, and they were ahead with a penalty from youngster Finn Grogan.

With both teams giving no quarter,

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

it was the Cheshire hosts who struck next with a penalty to level matters at the interval.

The Eagles upped their game after the break, fly half Grogan slotting another penalty to regain the lead, but Congleton were in mood to lie down, with their aggressive approach resulting in a yellow card and another penalty from Grogan.

The Oswestry machine now started to take control of the game with some superb handling by the backs resulting in the strong-running Jamie Luckett crossing for a superb try, converted by Grogan.

With their superior fitness to the fore, Oswestry continued to press against their plucky hosts, and a second try came from Howland who jinked his way through with Grogan again adding the conversion to seal a 23-3 win.

Shropshire Cricket League fixtures

Saturday

Premier Division

Wem v Brosley; Reman Services v Newport; Shropshire; Ludlow & S Shropshire v Madeley; Gound v Bomere Heath; Quatt v St Georges; Shropshire; Wroxeter G v Frankton.

Division 1

Albrighton, Shropshire v Lilleshall; Newtown v Forton; Shelton v Market Drayton; Alberbury v Pontesbury; Allscott v Knockin & Kinnerley; Beacon, Shrop v Tibberton; Shropshire.

Division 2

Condover v Wellington, Shropshire; Willey v Prees; Much Wenlock v Cae Glas; Ellesmere v Shrewsbury; Bishops Castle v Church Stretton; Montgomery v Welshpool.

Division 3

Wroxeter Grove v Wheaton Aston; Harpers v Shifnal; Chelmarsh v Iscoyd & Fenns Bank; Ludlow & South Shropshire v Llanidloes; Church Aston v Corvedale.

Division 4

Hinstock v Beacon, Shrop; Acton Reynald v Coton Hall; Overton-on-Dee v Hodnet & Pegg; Harcourt v St Georges, Shropshire; Trysull & Seisdon v Quatt.

Division 5

Corvedale v Lilleshall; Allscott v M Wenlock; Lilleshall v Quayside; Shrewsbury v Bridgnorth.

Reserves Division 1

St Georges, Shropshire v Quatt; Madeley v Ludlow & South Shropshire; Wellington, Shropshire v Wem; Newport, Shropshire v Reman Services; Frankton v Beacon, Shrop.

Reserve Division 2

Lilleshall v Condover; Forton v Willey; Cae Glas v Shelton; Pontesbury v Alberbury; Knockin & Kinnerley v Allscott; Welshpool v Wroxeter Grove.

Reserve Division 3

Brosley v Wroxeter Grove; Shifnal v Newtown; Market Drayton v Oswestry; Iscoyd & Fenns Bank v Ellesmere; St Georges, Shropshire v Bishops Castle; Tibberton, Shropshire v Montgomery.

Sunday

Division 3

Oswestry v Calverhall.

Division 4 A

Bomere Heath v Alberbury; Wem v Wellington, Shropshire; Gound v Knockin & Kinnerley; Frankton v Worfield; Reman Services v Whitchurch, Shropshire; Madeley v Newport.

Division 5

Pontesbury v Madeley; Wellington, Shropshire v Llanidloes; Knockin & Kinnerley v Ludlow & South Shropshire; Acton Reynald v Albrighton, Shropshire.

Tennis ladies start season with top win

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's autumn season began on a positive note with the second team securing a good away win at Hinstock.

In the first round rubbers, the first pair of captain Gary Edwards and Speth Cumpston won comfortably in straight sets 6-1, 6-2.

The new partnership of second pair Saffron Rainey and Carol Slater took a little time to get used to each other's game and narrowly dropped the first set 4-6 but bounced back in the second set to take it 6-2.

They took an early lead in the deciding third set tiebreak but were unable to capitalise and lost it 0-1 (6-10).

In the reverse rubbers, Edwards and Cumpston were totally dominant against the opposing second pair dropping only one game taking it 6-1, 6-0.

Rainey and Slater played much more consistently against the Hinstock first pair taking the first set 7-5 and, after letting a 4-0 lead slip in the second set, regained their focus to run out the winners 6-4.

Darters all set for a thrilling end to season

IT'S getting tight at the top of the Newtown Premier Darts League.

With just two points separating five players at the top it's all to play for – and two of the players will join Jim Williams and Mark Layton on finals night on October 17.

Paul Bordewey moves into contention after his 4-1 win over Craig Davies. Garry Jones forced a high class draw with Neil Astley and in doing so hit the night's highest checkout of 152.

Sean Barnett continued his good form with a first ever premier league win over Steve Greenwood 4-0.

Scott Docherty remains in fourth spot after his 4-0 win over Ben Amos.

By George! Morda goal ace nets a hat-trick



Hat-trick hero George Turner

A HAT-TRICK from George Turner, coupled with a brace from Emllyn Williams, saw Morda United celebrate their delayed start to the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League season with an emphatic 5-0 win over hosts Llanfyllin Town.

The odds were stacked against Morda when they arrived with just 11 players, while work commitments left them to play most of the second half with one short.

However, Colin Turner's side showed the team spirit which took them to the division two title last year with a performance that suggests they will be a force to be reckoned with in division one this season.

Playing against the wind against a side which already had two league games under their belt, Morda were slow to settle.

Llanfyllin's Lee Morris drew a good early save from Josh Thomas but on 20 minutes Turner gave Morda the lead with a free kick from outside the box.

A Lee Morris freekick at the other end nearly brought Town level but Morda keeper Thomas was in top form tipping over the bar. Turner and Richards both went close before John Breese was unlucky to see a superb volley shave the post.

Morda had a fortunate escape shortly after the interval when Llanfyllin defender Calum Vaughan headed wide and they soon capitalised when Emllyn Williams doubled the lead from the penalty spot after a clear foul on Breese.

Despite now playing with 10 men, Morda continued to push and Emllyn Williams' skilful back heel was hammered home by Turner who completed his hat-trick after a fine Nathan Richards cross had been palmed out.

The forward was unlucky not to claim a fourth when hitting the bar from a free kick before Williams pounced on a defensive mistake to hit Morda's fifth.

Llanfyllin stuck to their task but, despite several efforts striker Zakh Ward, could find no way past central defenders Mike Jones and Steve Bishon and keeper Thomas.

On Saturday, Morda hope to build on this fine start to their league programme when they make the short journey to Trefonen (2.30pm)

FC Oswestry get back in the groove

ON the road for the third consecutive week, FC Oswestry Town returned to the winning trail with a 4-2 success at Shifnal reserves to lift themselves up to third in the Mercian Regional League premier division.

Stung by their 6-5 loss at Childs Ercall seven days before, Town were determined to make amends and sounded an early warning when Chris Bishop forced a save from the home keeper.

However, just one minute later, Bishop made no

mistake when finding the net from close range after great work from winger Ishtiaque Rashid.

Bishop then added a second in the 19th minute after a fine one-two with winger Harry Kerr, but Shifnal hit back on 18 minutes to reduce the arrears.

However, Town restored their two goal advantage on the 20 minute mark with Bishop completing his hat-trick with another assist from Rashid.

Then, three minutes before half-time, Rashid made it a hat-trick of assists as he set up Stefan Iva-

nov who lobbed the keeper from 30 yards for a 4-1 interval lead.

The second half saw Town dominate with midfielders Tommy Lewis and Rich Morris linking up well.

Bishop had several chances saved, while Kerr watched his header slip inches wide and Ivanov put two chances just wide, before the hosts managed a consolation with just 30 seconds on the clock.

On Saturday, Town are back home at Park Hall

Super-sub Harris is cup hero for Guils

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

TWO fine strikes from substitute Jack Harris propelled Guilsfield into the quarter-finals of the Huws Gray Cup with a 3-1 passage away to Holyhead Hotspur.

The long trek to Anglesey proved fruitful for last season's beaten finalists despite going into the game without the influential Gareth Jones, Jack Richards and Nathan Leonard.

New signing Jake Cook was given a starting place and the youngster make his mark, especially in the second half.

Playing against the wind in the first period, the Guils held firm with relative comfort as Holyhead failed to make the most of the conditions.

And the Mid Wales visitors took advantage of the elements in the second period as they carved a 47th minute lead when Aaron Edwards tucked away a penalty after Adam Jenkins had been tripped in the box.

This sparked 10 minutes of sustained Guilsfield pressure with Jenkins having a handful of half chances to score, but Holyhead were back on terms when Mike Edwards fired home on 70 minutes following some sloppy play - their first effort on target.

Undaunted, Guilsfield regained the lead with a 30-yard wonder strike from substitute Harris that looped over the keeper.

With Holyhead's challenge fading, Harris struck his second in the last minute with another well taken effort when finding the left hand corner of the net after being given time to pick his spot from 20 yards.

Guilsfield could reflect on a job well done in the second half as they ran out deserved winners and will look for more of the same when they return to duty at Mold Alex on Saturday.

Holders Caersws, who defeated the Guils in last season's final, fell at the first hurdle after being well beaten 4-0 by Flint Town United at the Recreation Ground.

New striker Lee Healey scored twice for Flint, with Simon Thelwell and Stewart Carroll also finding the net.

Youngster Josh Astley got the only goal of the game as LLANFAIR UNITED gave themselves a timely boost after winning 1-0 at Rhayader Town to reach the last eight.

The 16-year-old came on as a substitute to notch his first senior goal when finishing a James Davies cross from six yards with his first touch to spark wild celebrations from the visitors.

Saturday's fixtures - Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30): Caernarfon Town v Cefn Druids, Gresford Athletic v Caersws, Llanfair Utd v Porthmadog, Mold Alex v Guilsfield, Prestatyn Town v Flint Town Utd, Rhayader Town v Holyhead Hotspur.

Only Waterloo make cup progress



Welshpool Town striker Will Thomas closes in on Danny Ives during the 2-1 defeat at Knighton

HAVING reached the last 16 last season, Llanrhaeadr's run in this year's Welsh Cup came to an end with a 5-0 drubbing at Carno in the second qualifying round.

The visitors were always up against it even before the first whistle with a number of key players missing, but were in the hunt at the interval despite trailing to a goal from Andy Evans.

But they subsided after the break against their Spar Mid Wales League rivals as Danny Pierce, Sam Williams, Ashley Owen and Williams (2) completed an emphatic win.

Joining Carno in the first round are **WATERLOO ROVERS** who progressed with a 3-1

home win over Tywyn Brynrcrug with Will Pritchard, Gaz Turner and Andrew Gwilt on target.

Goals from Karl Seliearts and Richard Davies saw second division Berriw through with a 2-1 home success against first division Machynlleth but **WELSH POOL** are out after their 2-1 exit at Knighton Town.

It was also the end of the road for **MONTGOMERY** who lost 4-2 at Aberaeron, while Bow Street had a 2-1 success against Hay St Mary's.

Llanidloes Town crashed out 5-1 at Penrhyncoch, despite leading at half time with an early free kick from skipper Steve Jones.

But the tie was turned on its

head after the break as defender Elian Evans and Jon Foligno both found the net, with Mattie Davies completing a hat-trick.

In the Spar Mid Wales League, the second division's early leaders Kerry went down 3-2 at second placed Borth.

Biggest winners were Abermule who beat Newbridge 8-0, while Churchstoke were not far behind after winning 5-1 at Bont to clear the basement pack.

DYFFRYN BANW lost ground on the leading sides following their 3-1 loss at third placed Bettws, while **FOUR CROSSES** continued their improved form after finishing 0-0 at home to Presteigne.

Whittington finish bowls season with away defeat

WHITTINGTON A ended a fluctuating season in the Oswestry and District Bowling League division one by suffering a 9-1 (162-97) mauling at runners-up Llangollen A.

Aled Davies (21-15) bagged the consolation, with the villagers eventually finishing a respectable seventh despite being embroiled in a basement battle at one stage.

Mid table **CHURCH A** also ended on a losing note, going down 7-3 (156-137) at home to high-riding Ceiriog Valley A who sealed the title virtue of their victory. Phil Laker (21-15) was the best for the home side.

CRIFTINS A finished in fifth spot after ending with a 6-4 (142-131) home verdict against Chirk A, Ron Crooke winning to eight.

WHITTINGTON B are promoted from division three as champions after ending their triumphant season with an 8-2 (162-124) victory away to Ruabon B.

Fine single figure wins from Andy Cawthray (21-7), Brian Charles (21-8) and Eillen Sinker (21-9) helped the villagers win the title by three points.

Champions **FOX LANE** suffered an 8-2 (142-119) loss at runners-up Llangollen in their last match of the season in division four, Simon Hayman and Mike Haycocks getting their consolations to six and 10 respectively.

IFTON, champions of division six, completed an unbeaten season as they chalked up their 18th straight win after sweeping aside **LLANMYNECH C 8-2** (154-74) in their last match, with Ian Metcalfe winning to one and Gareth Williams and Curtis Metcalfe both to two.

Ifton look to cement spot in top three

IFTON'S bowlers continued their rousing finish to the Flowfit Shropshire Premier League season with a 9-5 win at Meole Brace to put them on course for a top three finish.

The St Martins side took the shots by just three (215-212) to end second placed Meole's title ambitions, which saw leaders Newport land the crown for the fifth time on the bounce following their 11-3 victory against Sir John Bayley.

They may not have won the title, but it has nevertheless been a terrific season for Ifton who will be out to sign off in style when they head to Chester Road for their last league action on Friday night.

Craig Griffiths recorded the best result against Meole with his 21-11 success over Craig Wilson.

The visitors produced another fine team performance, with Nicky Jones winning 21-12, Rocky Jones 21-14, Dave Bond 21-15 and Keiron Roberts 21-17, while Adam Price prevailed in a 21-20 thriller against Peter Bound.

Saints slide to defeat at newcomers

ST MARTINS failed to build on a promising first half as they slipped to a 3-1 loss at newcomers FC Stafford to slip down to mid-table in the West Midlands League division one.

The Saints were soon in their stride, but could not make their early pressure count as the home side took a 20th minute lead against the run of play when Jasper Johns converted a Tom Duffy cross.

They were level on 35 minutes as Karl Bailey lashed home from 18 yards out.

Stafford regained the lead in fortuitous fashion when a Duffy cross was deflected into the net off a Saints player in a packed goalmouth.

Duffy then completed the scoring in the last minute.

Llanfair stay in touch with the leaders

GOALS from Chris Humphreys and Matt Bumford steered Llanfair reserves to a 2-1 success over Trefonen in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League Honda division one.

Victory kept them in touching distance of leaders Meifod who made it five wins from five as a brace from Hywel Bennett clinched a 2-1 win at Guilsfield reserves.

In Mitsubishi division two, a strike from Dean Jones earned Llangedwyn a 1-0 success against Welshpool reserves.

Results

Llansantffraid Village Cup round one: Llansantffraid Village 4 Forden Utd 0, Llanrhaeadr Res 5 Kerry Res 1, Llanymynech 3 Caersws Res 2. **Tanners Town Cup round one:** Newtown Rovers 12 Waterloo Colts 0, Newtown Wanderers 4 Maesysmandir 1. **Holds One:** Guilsfield Res 1 Meifod 2, Llanfair Res 2 Trefonen 1, Llanfyllin 0 Morda Utd 5, **Mitsubishi Two:** Welshpool Res 0 Llangedwyn 1.

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

keeper Steve Cann into the top left hand corner.

The visitors scented an equaliser but Matthew Long could only fire past the post from just inside the box after TNS had failed to defend a corner.

But Edwards was again in the thick of the action for the home side with his terrific volley rattling the post after beating Cann just before half-time.

The Steelmen were still in the hunt at the break, but TNS gave themselves a two goal cushion five minutes into the second period when Marriott planted a superb free kick into the top corner from the edge of the box.

The points were effectively settled three minutes later when Scott Quigley produced some sterling work wide out before crossing for Wilde to head home.

The visitors did give themselves a glimmer of hope inside the hour when ex-Saint Chris Jones scored direct from a corner, but the Saints had further chances, going close to a fourth when Quigley's

Sport

Football
Super-sub nets
for Guils – P55

Cricket
Seconds clinch
the title – P54



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Tulloch on fast track to success



Oswestry eventer Thomas Tulloch with rugby star Jason Robinson

OSWESTRY eventer Thomas Tulloch has been singled out for his sporting achievements and handed a prestigious spot on the 2015 Jaguar Land Rover Academy of Sport programme.

Tulloch is in world class-company on the programme, with the likes of Jade Jones, who won gold at the Olympic Games in 2012 in London in taekwondo, one of the first recipients of an Academy of Sport bursary back in 2010.

The 16-year-old, who has enjoyed international recognition competing at the European Championships for Ponies and twice winning the British Pony Championships, experienced a once in a lifetime opportunity as he attended the world famous Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials where he rubbed shoulders with 2003 rugby world cup winner and Land Rover ambassador Jason Robinson.

Just 276 athletes have been awarded with an Academy bursary since 2010, with 35 per cent of progressing to professional or world-class funding level – which demonstrates the huge potential of Shrewsbury School's Tulloch in the years ahead.

He said: "The support that Jaguar Land Rover Academy of Sport are giving me is helping me so much with the finance for my training.

"Also the finance for supporting the horses themselves, being able to go to events, staying at all the venues, travelling overseas, there are so many things that they help me do. The mentoring is also a great opportunity because then you get to meet people who have have got there. And you can see what career paths they have taken."

This year the Academy has provided bursaries to 50 young able-bodied and disabled athletes, who are recognised as being top of their game

In Jaguar Land Rover Academy of Sport star Thomas Tulloch was invited to Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials event to meet with Jason Robinson for an exclusive mentoring Q&A. For more information on the Academy visit sport.sad.org.uk

Clarke named on England Lions tour

CRICKET by Dave Cooper

OSWESTRY'S rising star Joe Clarke has been named in an England Lions' Twenty20 squad to face Pakistan A in Dubai.

Clarke is among 16 Lions to be led by Hampshire batsman James Vince in a five-match series in December. He has also been named in an 18-man Performance Programme, split between South Africa and then the UAE in November.

Those training camps will be led by former Test coach Andy Flower and with the assistance of Worcestershire's Steve Rhodes, both of whom will then work with the Lions this winter.

Joining Clarke on the two-week Lions Twenty20 tour before Christmas will be five more

players with full international experience – Sam Billings, Chris Jordan, Stephen Parry, Reece Topley and David Willey.

Clarke, an England under-19 wicketkeeper batsman, has impressed in his first season for Worcestershire, which earned him a new three year contract with the Pears.

Worcestershire Director of Cricket Steve Rhodes said: "To make a rapid rise from England Under-19s to Lions after a small amount of time in First Class cricket, means people see that he is

someone they think has got a special talent to be able to make it at international level very early with a short apprenticeship.

"Let's hope he can fulfil the promise. His strengths are the way he can bat in the sense he is very good at making sure most of the middle of the bat manages to hit the ball which.

"But it's not just the ability to play. He has got a mental strength for a lad so young that is going to hold him in good stead."

Rhodes added: "Does Joe reminded me of myself? I didn't have that ability but his determination and working things out and I suppose a little bit of cheekiness is there."

TNS READY TO FACE OLD FOE

THE New Saints face another big test in their Dafabet Welsh Premier season when they visit one of their chief rivals on Saturday.

They go to Airbus UK in Saturday's live TV game (5.15pm).

The Wingmakers were the only side to defeat the Saints in last season's historic treble-winning campaign when running out 1-0 winners at the Hollingsworth Group Stadium. They also drew 1-1 at Park Hall.

But the Saints will be feeling a lot better with life after returning to winning ways with a 3-1 home success against a steely Port Talbot side last week.

That victory, following two draws, lifted TNS to joint second in the table and they now lie just one point behind Newtown who suffered their first loss at the hands of Rhyl.

Tough

Nevertheless, they will be wary of the threat posed by the Wingmakers who, despite being beset by injuries, are again likely to prove a force this season.

"They're always tough games against Airbus, and it will be no different on Saturday," said manager Craig Harrison, who has just completed his UEFA pro licence.

"But I think in the last 12 league games they've only beaten us twice so, although they're close games, they've not got a great record against us. "After two draws it was important for us to get back to winning ways against Port Talbot.

"Two draws was not the end of the world, we're still unbeaten, but we set ourselves high standards.

"Historically, we have tended to start slowly. In my first full season as manager we had seven points after four games and the following season we had eight."

Harrison, who made some tactical changes last week, is again weighing up his options, with new signing Danny Gosset in contention along with right-back Simon Spender who is back in training following an ankle problem. Gosset, 20, joined on a free after impressing on trial.

Saturday's clash is being screened live on S4C's football programme Sgorio.

Eagles and Welshpool fly high



Up he goes – Joe Stranks gets a lift in the line-out for Welshpool. Pictures: Gary Williams.

OSWESTRY look to reel off three wins on the bounce in rugby's Cheshire South in their first home appearance against Dukinfield.

After enjoying a good start with away wins at Ashton-on-Mersey (67-14) and Congleton (23-3), the Eagles are looking in good shape.

They were made to battle hard against Congleton last week, a side they had never played before, before second half tries from Jamie Luckett and Nick Howland won the day.

With Dukinfield lying one place above in third position after two wins themselves, this weekend's clash promises to be a closely fought affair.

It was also a good day for Oswestry's second

string who ran out 37-14 winners against Congleton II in the North West League division four (south) while the thirds were edged out 32-26 at home to Acton Nomads in division five (south).

Across the border, COBRA return to action in the Swalec League Welsh League division one (north) with a trip to Llandudno as they chase their first points.

WELSHPOOL, buoyed by their opening day 30-10 victory over Rhyl in division three (north), look to claim the local bragging rights on Saturday when they face a local derby at Newtown.

Match reports see page 54

Missing men a worry for Llan's boss

LLANFAIR UNITED manager Rhys Stephens again faces a selection headache ahead of Saturday's home clash with Porthmadog.

After gleaming two wins in five Cymru Alliance outings, Llanfair again showed their mettle last week by notching a 1-0 victory at Rhayader Town to progress to the quarter-finals of the Huws Gray Cup.

It was a timely boost, but the league new-boys remain well below strength for this weekend's testing encounter against a Port side who are going well in second place.

"We've got quite a few missing again, but it is what it is, and we've just got to get on with it," said Stephens.

"We were well below full strength when we won 4-1 at Prestatyn a few weeks back, so we are coping OK.

"And we've certainly not been down even when we've been losing.

Ugly

"It was good to win a close game at Rhayader last week.

"We weren't great, but sometimes you need to win ugly."

The only goal came from 16-year-old substitute Josh Astley who scored with his first touch.

GUILDFIELD, lying third in the Cymru Alliance with 10 points from five games, look to keep up their early challenge at Mold Alex.

The villagers make the trip in good heart after reaching the quarter-finals of the Huws Gray Cup with a 3-1 passage at Holyhead Hotspur.

"It's going to be a tough game at Mold, but if we can apply ourselves like we did last week, then we've got a chance," said manager Danny Barton.

The Guils have a stronger squad this season.

They had half a dozen players missing from the trip to Holyhead but were still able to claim the victory.

Llanrhaeadr look for Trophy tonic

AFTER their early Welsh Cup exit, Llanrhaeadr look for a timely tonic when they host local rivals Llansantffraid Village in the second round of the FA Wales trophy on Saturday.

It has been a mixed start for the Spar Mid Wales League side, who failed to emulate last season's encouraging run in the Welsh Cup when bowing out 5-0 to Carno in only the second qualifying round.

Their cause has been hampered with several players missing.

But they hope to have forward Iwan Matthews and keeper Connor Lee both back this weekend, although Ben White is still missing.

Montgomery will be hoping home advantage can help them overcome Llanngollen in another Trophy tie, while Berriaw face a tricky trip to in-form Penrhynoch.

Saturday's ties: Bow Street v Llanidloes, Carno v Presteigne, Llanrhaeadr v Llansantffraid Village, Machynlleth v Knighton Town, Montgomery v Llangollen Town, Penrhynoch v Berriaw, Tywyn Bryncreg v Llanfyllin Town.

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